WORLD SOCCER

FEBRUARY 1979

The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

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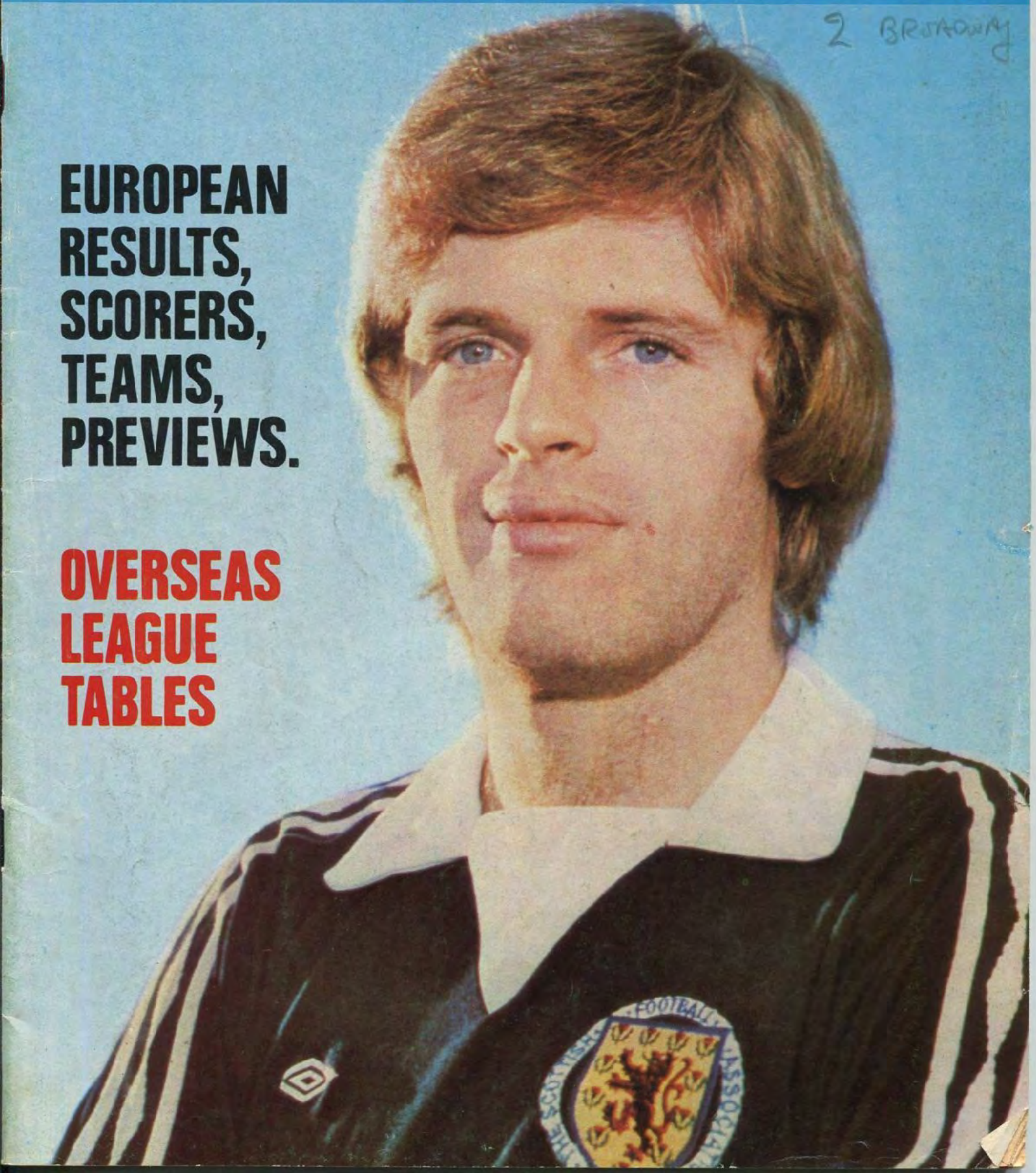
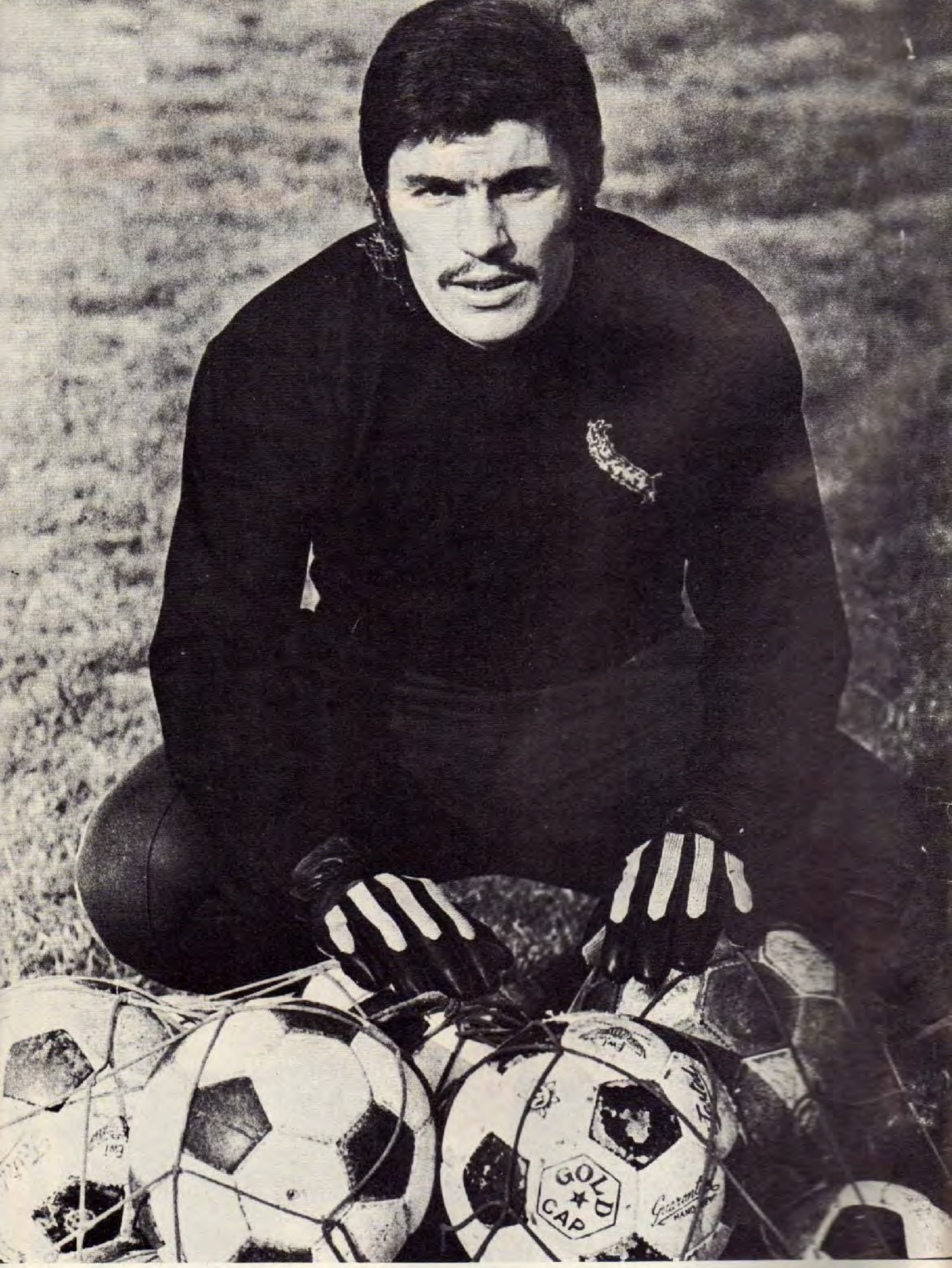
2 BROADWAY

EUROPEAN RESULTS, SCORERS, TEAMS, PREVIEWS.

OVERSEAS LEAGUE TABLES





PETAR BOROTA F.C. Partizan

World SOCCER

Washington capture Passarella

WHAT SORT of a team will world champions Argentina send to Europe later in the year? Even, will the tour go ahead?

These are the two major questions now arising as the £750,000 transfer of Daniel Passarella to Washington Diplomats confirms the break-up of the team whose 3-1 triumph over Holland sent a nation delirious.

For it's only Passarella who appears bound for exile: manager Cesar Luis Menotti's failure to agree terms on a new contract with the AFA means that while Argentina's team are falling apart, they don't have a manager either.

River Plate decided after the World Cup to hang on to all their stars. They set their sights on the Libertadores Cup. But, beaten in the semi-final groups, finishing well down in the metropolitan championship and now defeated in the two-leg final of the national league by Independiente, they succumbed to the pressure.

What pressure? The pressure to cash in on their World Cup men to obtain the money they need to rebuild. For River are out of this year's Libertadores and all their efforts will now be aimed at winning the metropolitan title.

Passarella and goalkeeper Ubaldo Fillol — who is still arguing over a new contract — had both appeared reluctant to move, even when tentative negotiations began on a joint transfer to Manchester United.

But now Passarella, Argentina's 25-year-old defensive strongman and captain, has gone, more may yet follow.

Mario Kempes was already in Spain with Valencia before the World Cup, but now Argentina colleagues Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricardo Villa (Tottenham), Daniel Bertoni (Sevilla), and Alberto Tarantini (Birmingham) have followed him abroad: Rene Houseman nearly joined Middlesbrough, and Omar Larrosa is the subject of an offer from Brazil.

World Cup star Mario Kempes pictured at his recent wedding in Valencia, where he now plays for the local Spanish league side.

Offers

As for manager Menotti, he asked the AFA for a £60,000 signing-on fee and a guaranteed £5,000 a month for a new four-year contract. The AFA said they couldn't afford him and both the Uruguayan FA and the San Lorenzo club immediately made offers. So did struggling Paris FC from France, but Menotti is biding his time.

It's far from certain that he won't end up staying with Argentina. Cordoba's Talleres have been trying to organise a whip-round of the major clubs to come up with the money, and there has been a massive public outcry that the hero of the Mundial should be allowed to go.

Above all, it's the thought that he might go across the River Plate to Montevideo which many fans find upsetting.

If Uruguay can afford to pay him, why can't Argentina? they ask in perplexity.

The Uruguayans had talks with Menotti halfway through his four-year build-up to the 1978 World Cup, at a time when public disenchantment and the big clubs' outright opposition threatened to force him out.

And on the eve of the finals last summer the Spanish FA, despite an unwritten continuance agreement with Ladislao Kubala, also approached Menotti.

So there is no lack of likely employers. But the fact that Menotti agreed to stay on and look after Argentina's youth team up to the junior world cup in Japan in late spring — should they get there — appears a strong hint that in the end he could well stay for another four-year term.

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Pictured on our front cover this month is the Scotland and Manchester United centre half Gordon McQueen.

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INTERNATIONA

REGULAR readers will know that having produced this feature for a number of years, I am never content to let the figures speak for themselves. To do so would very often be quite misleading, though some interesting facts comes out of the figures for the year under review.

For a start, for those who regarded Northern Ireland's 2-0 success away to Bulgaria as a significant result, and thought that the Bulgarians would really test England, look at Bulgaria's won 1 drawn 5 lost 7.

This does not necessarily follow that it will be easy for England at the Vassil Levski Stadion in Sofia, but if England do not do well there it will be their own fault.

But starting at the top of the table, for once I am convinced that Argentina's first place will not be disputed anywhere. I have known times when teams with a record of 4-1-0 have come out in the number one slot who certainly did not deserve it, but this year the facts underline the supremacy of Argentina.

How they will fare in the future, with half their side now abroad and Cesar Luis Menotti recently quitting is anybody's guess; mine will be that they will become very ordinary again, but for 1978 they were supreme.

Elsewhere amongst the top ten there are some that deserve higher places and some that are shown in too good a light.

The Soviet Union is a classic example for they are far from being the world number two. For a start they met a lot of inferior opposition in 1978, beginning with a 3-2 win away to Morocco. Then after losing 0-1 away to West Germany, they beat lesser sides like Finland, Rumania, Iran, Greece and Turkey.

Significantly, the Russians lost 0-2 away to Hungary in a game counting in the European Championship, but after that they improved their overall figures by playing three games in Japan and won all three for a goals tally of 11 to 2. By my assessment, I would rate the Soviet Union somewhere around 55% though I expect their results will improve under relatively new manager Nikita Simonian.

I would award second place to Holland who were beaten by both Scotland (in a match they did not need to win) and by Argentina, after extra time, in the World Cup, but then they also lost away to West Germany just a few days before Christmas. But even so, they still have a handful of good players which is more than most countries can claim, and I believe that if the World Cup final had been played in Amsterdam, then they would probably have beaten Argentina.

The figures put England in third place, and if they still need a left-back and one new face in the middle, assuming Peter Shilton keeps his place and there are no serious injuries for vital matches, I expect them to get even better.

Wales, like Russia do not deserve their high place. For a start they played five of their six games in the United Kingdom, and struggled to beat Turkey by 1-0 . . . and look where they are in the table.

Like a lot of other teams today, the Welshmen have a strong defence and the players work hard, but a good side needs more than that.

Brazil show up this weakness too, for even if Rivelino *was injured* at the time of the World Cup, they owe their good results to a strong defence and they were terribly weak in attack, where they have traditionally been so strong. Brazil's defence, as seen in Argentina was probably the best they have ever had for if the back four of 1958 were superior, the defence these days encompasses no less than eight players and this is what makes it more difficult to score against Brazil today than it was in 1958.

Italy won many friends in the World Cup, though I was not amongst them. They were regarded as having become more conscious of the need to attack, but they gave themselves away in their match with Holland. Leading by a goal to nil at the interval, Enzo Bearzot took off right winger Franco Causio to bring on an extra midfield player . . . 'to keep the result'. To my delight Holland beat them 2-1, and it served them right, for I believe that if they had gone looking for more goals, they had the talent to get them.

Since then, Italy were taken apart by the new Czechoslovakia, who hammered them 3-0 in Bratislava, and in games at home to Bulgaria (1-0) and Turkey (1-0) they could only win by 'the minimum'.

But with so few good sides about, I would rate Italy higher than their place in the table. Top in fact of the teams I group together as being *difficult to beat.*

West Germany had an indifferent year, their poorest for some time. After beginning with odd goal wins over Russia and England, they had a very poor spring and summer.

Warming up for the World Cup the Germans crashed 1-3 away to Sweden, and then in the big competition in Argentina they could only draw with Poland, Italy and Holland, and very strikingly, Tunisia. Most important of all however, they went down 2-3 to Austria, who had not beaten them for years. I feel however that West Germany will improve under new manager Jupp Derwall.

Others that I expect to improve, apart from Russia and West Germany already mentioned are Czechoslovakia (Jozef Venglos) and Yugoslavia (Miljan Miljanic) Venglos was in charge when the Czechs beat Sweden in Stockholm and beat Italy 3-0, and they did very well too at Wembley.

Miljanic on the other hand has yet to see a ball kicked, and takes over with morale at rock bottom.

One more relatively new manager for whom I expect things to improve is Jock Stein, for it is clear that if he cannot sort out Scotland's problems then there is no living Scotsman who can.

Greece are a side whose figures look to be better than in the recent past but they are somewhat flattering because they include two wins over Australia. Take them away and their record reads 3-1-5.

Typical of all the ordinary sides today is Rumania who have consistently had a reasonable defence but a poor attack for some years. With a 50% record this year, their tally is 3-2-3 and in goals 8.8. Obviously they are not a good side, but are difficult to beat.

For once, in summary I will stick my neck out and favour Argentina and Holland as numbers one and two respectively.

International Results

January

Cyprus 0 Greece 2
Libya 1 Tunisia 0
Spain 2 Italy 1

February

Italy 2 France 2
Israel 2 Denmark 0
San Salvador 1 Mexico 5
Greece 1 Austria 1
West Germany 2 England 1
Israel 1 Holland 2
Scotland 2 Bulgaria 1
Morocco 2 U.S.S.R. 3

March

Argentina 0 Uruguay 0
Malta 1 Tunisia 0
East Germany 3 Switzerland
France 2 Portugal 0
West Germany 1 U.S.S.R. 0
Argentina 2 Peru 1
Luxembourg 1 Poland 3
Belgium 1 Austria 0
Turkey 1 Rumania 1
Greece 0 Czechoslovakia 1
Peru 1 Argentina 3
Spain 3 Norway 0
Argentina 3 Bulgaria 1

April

France 1 Brazil 0
Peru 1 Bulgaria 1
East Germany 0 Sweden 1
Mexico 3 Bulgaria 0
Poland 5 Greece 2
U.S.S.R. 10 Finland 2
Iran 0 Yugoslavia 0
Switzerland 0 Austria 1
West Germany 0 Brazil 1
Argentina 2 Rumania 0
Eire 4 Turkey 2
Tunisia 0 Holland 4
Poland 3 Eire 0
Peru 1 Mexico 0
Hungary 2 Czechoslovakia 1
Iran 0 Wales 1
East Germany 0 Belgium 0
Sweden 3 West Germany 1
England 1 Brazil 1
Argentina 3 Eire 1
Czechoslovakia 0 Bulgaria 0
Poland 1 Bulgaria 0
Spain 2 Mexico 0
Uruguay 2 Argentina 0

May

Brazil 3 Peru 0
Argentina 3 Uruguay 0
Finland 0 Mexico 1
Rumania 2 Bulgaria 0
Wales 1 England 3
N. Ireland 1 Scotland 1
France 2 Iran 1
Rumania 0 U.S.S.R. 1
England 1 N. Ireland 0
Scotland 1 Wales 1
Brazil 2 Czechoslovakia 0
Wales 1 N. Ireland 0
Italy 0 Yugoslavia 0
France 2 Tunisia 0
Scotland 0 England 1
Austria 0 Holland 1
Norway 0 Eire 0
Sweden 0 Czechoslovakia 0
Tunisia 2 Hungary 2
England 4 Hungary 1
Denmark 3 Eire 3
Finland 3 Greece 0
Uruguay 0 Spain 0
Bulgaria 1 Rumania 1
Norway 1 Denmark 2

June

West Germany 0 Poland 0
Tunisia 3 Mexico 1
Argentina 2 Hungary 1
France 1 Italy 2
Peru 3 Scotland 1
Iran 0 Holland 3
Sweden 1 Brazil 1
Spain 1 Austria 2
West Germany 6 Mexico 0
Poland 1 Tunisia 0
Italy 3 Hungary 1
Argentina 2 France 1
Austria 1 Sweden 0
Brazil 0 Spain 0
Scotland 1 Iran 1
Peru 0 Holland 0
West Germany 0 Tunisia 0
France 3 Hungary 1
Poland 3 Mexico 1
Italy 1 Argentina 0
Scotland 3 Holland 2
Peru 4 Iran 1
Brazil 1 Austria 0
Sweden 0 Spain 1
Australia 1 Greece 2
West Germany 0 Italy 0
Brazil 3 Peru 0
Austria 1 Holland 5
Argentina 2 Poland 0
Australia 0 Greece 1
West Germany 2 Holland 2
Argentina 0 Brazil 0
Poland 1 Peru 0
Italy 1 Austria 0
West Germany 2 Austria 3
Holland 2 Italy 1
Brazil 3 Poland 1
Argentina 6 Peru 0
Italy 1 Brazil 2
Argentina 3 Holland 1
Iceland 0 Denmark 0

August

Finland 1 Norway 1
Denmark 2 Sweden 1
Norway 0 Austria 2
France 2 Sweden 2
East Germany 2 Bulgaria 2
Finland 0 Poland 1

September

Iceland 0 U.S.A. 0
Iran 0 U.S.S.R. 1
East Germany 2 Czechoslovakia 1
Iceland 0 Poland 2
Switzerland 2 U.S.A. 0
Holland 3 Iceland 0
Eire 0 N. Ireland 0
Austria 3 Scotland 2
U.S.S.R. 2 Greece 0
Belgium 1 Norway 1
Denmark 3 England 4
Finland 2 Hungary 1
Italy 1 Bulgaria 0
Portugal 1 U.S.A. 0
Italy 1 Turkey 0
Bulgaria 3 Turkey 1

October

Sweden 1 Czechoslovakia 3
Yugoslavia 1 Spain 2
East Germany 3 Iceland 1
Turkey 0 U.S.S.R. 2

NAL REVIEW 78

Alan Curtis of Wales.

I will also add that I like the new look Ron Greenwood has given England. Others that I feel are on the upgrade (whatever their previous level) include: France, Portugal, Finland and Tunisia.

Those who appear to me to be in decline, after having good sides include Poland, Brazil, East Germany, Uruguay and very difinitely Sweden and Switzerland are on the skids too. The only win the Swiss recorded in 1978 was at home to the touring United States!

I would also like to place on record my liking for Peru, as seen in the World Cup, and having already named my top teams, I feel that several countries under new management will get better. Amongst them are, in no particular order, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Portugal.

Finally, all I can do in the face of the fact that there are very few really good forwards about is to list the teams that I would regard as difficult to beat. Not good, but just what I call them. Here we definitely find Italy, Spain, Brazil and France, and I would include two who have been outsiders for a long time — The Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. For the rest not mentioned, they are a very ordinary lot who will I am sure continue to achieve indifferent results in 1979.

Luxembourg 1 France 3
Hungary 2 U.S.S.R. 0
Switzerland 1 Holland 3
Portugal 1 Belgium 1
Rumania 1 Poland 0
Greece 8 Finland 1
Denmark 2 Bulgaria 2
Czechoslovakia 3 West Germany 4
Mexico 1 Honduras 4
Wales 7 Malta 0
Eire 1 England 1
Rumania 3 Yugoslavia 2
Scotland 3 Norway 2
N. Ireland 2 Denmark 1
Greece 4 Hungary 1

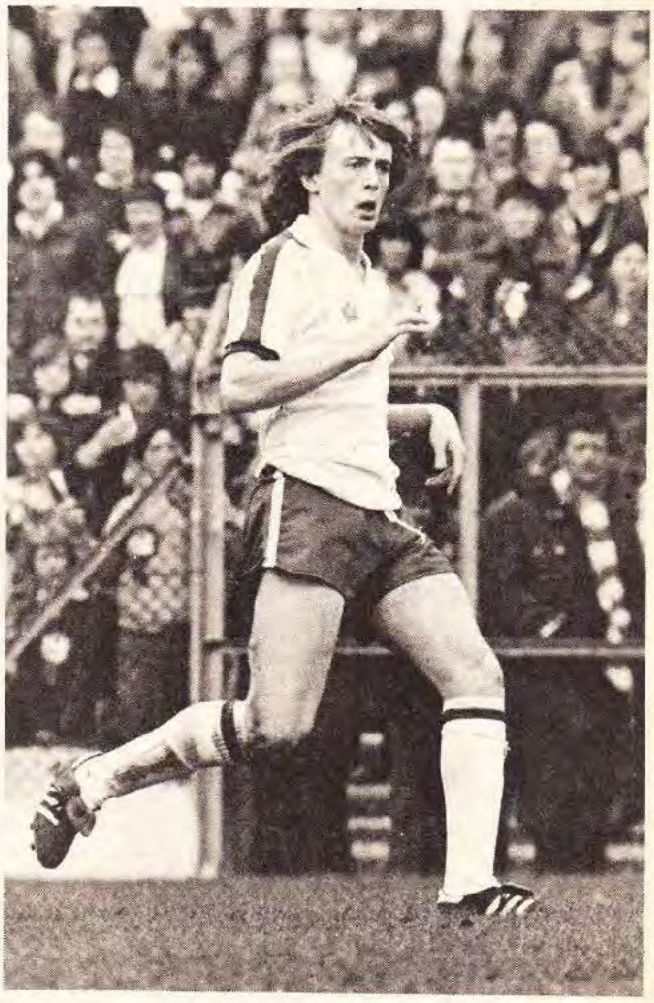
November
Czechoslovakia 3 Italy 0
France 1 Spain 0
Austria 1 Portugal 2
Poland 2 Switzerland 0
Holland 3 East Germany 0
Spain 1 Rumania 0
Japan 1 U.S.S.R. 4
West Germany 0 Hungary 0
Japan 1 U.S.S.R. 4
Yugoslavia 4 Greece 1
Israel 1 Belgium 0
Japan 0 U.S.S.R. 3
Bulgaria 0 N. Ireland 2
Wales 1 Turkey 0
England 1 Czechoslovakia 0
Portugal 1 Scotland 0

WORLD SOCCER'S annual look back over the year with ERIC BATTY

December
Spain 5 Cyprus 0
West Germany 3 Holland 1
Italy 1 Spain 0

	Pld	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For.Against	% success
ARGENTINA	15	11	2	2	31.10	86.6
Russia	11	9	0	2	30. 9	81.8
England	9	6	2	1	17. 9	77.7
Brazil	12	7	4	1	17. 5	75.0
Wales	6	4	1	1	12. 4	75.0
Poland	14	10	1	3	23.10	75.0
France	11	7	2	2	20.11	72.7
Holland	14	9	2	3	32.15	71.4
Portugal	5	3	1	1	5. 4	70.0
Spain	12	7	2	3	17. 6	66.6
Italy	14	7	3	4	15.13	60.7
West Germany	13	5	5	3	21.14	57.7
East Germany	7	3	2	2	10. 9	57.1
Greece	11	5	1	5	21.19	50.0
Austria	13	6	1	6	15.17	50.0
Rumania	8	3	2	3	8. 8	50.0
Belgium	5	1	3	1	3. 3	50.0
Uruguay	4	1	2	1	2. 3	50.0
Scotland	10	3	3	4	14.16	45.0
Denmark	8	2	3	3	13.15	43.7
Eire	7	1	4	2	9.12	42.0
N. Ireland	6	2	1	3	5. 4	41.5
Yugoslavia	5	1	2	2	7. 6	40.0
Czechoslovakia	10	3	2	5	12.12	40.0
Sweden	9	2	3	4	9.11	38.8
Peru	11	3	2	6	11.21	36.3
Finland	7	2	1	4	9.22	35.7
Mexico	9	3	0	6	12.20	33.3
Hungary	10	2	2	6	12.21	30.0
Bulgaria	13	1	5	7	11.21	26.9
Tunisia	8	1	2	5	5.12	25.0
Norway	7	0	3	4	5.12	21.4
Switzerland	5	1	0	4	4. 9	20.0
Iceland	5	0	2	3	1. 8	20.0
Iran	7	0	2	5	3.12	14.2
Turkey	6	0	1	5	4.12	8.3

NB. Ruled out because they did not play a minimum of four matches: Israel (3); Luxembourg (2); Malta (2); Cyprus (2); and Paraguay, Chile, Colombia and Bolivia (0).



Peter Barnes of England.

Deyna, former Poland captain, now with Manchester City, in England.

KRAKOW STAY IN

WISLA KRAKOW may not be enjoying a particularly successful time in the Polish league this season but they are still in the European Cup.

One of the oldest clubs in the country, formed over 70 years ago, they do not have many well known players. Probably the best of them is midfielder Adam Nawalka who impressed in the World Cup in Argentina and is only 21.

The most experienced player is forward Kazimierz Kmecik the club captain at 27 and someone with 11 years service and 229 League games and 101 goals in this time as well as 27 caps for Poland — ten more than Nawalka.

Wisla can also claim something unique in another respect; their best known supporter is Pope John Paul II.

There are 20 senior players, another 20 in the second team while two junior and several minor sides make up a total of some 110 players attached to them.

Trainer Orest Lenczyk is 38, has been in charge since 1976 and is at present in Australia with his team prior to the resumption of League football after the winter pause.

Consistent Beveren

DESPITE Anderlecht redeeming themselves by beating Liverpool in the Super Cup, the most consistent team in Belgium has been SK Beveren-Waas deservedly leading the championship at the half-way stage.

Their Belgian Cup success last season was the first honour in the club's history which only dates back to 1935. After some reasonable success in regional and provincial leagues they graduated to the Third Division in 1953 and to Division Two in 1966.

A year later they won a place in the First Division but came down for a season in 1972.

They are still only part-timers with the exception of top scorer Erwin Albert a German previously with Hertha Berlin. He is the second highest scorer in the country at present with 12 goals.

The rest are made up of dockers, electricians, shop managers, engineers etc., and their ground which is called Freethiel holds not more than 15,000. But this is no real problem because the population of the town is not much over 10,000.

Since their ground is not up to the standards set in Europe, they have played their home Cup Winners Cup matches this season at Antwerp. It does not seem to have harmed them in any way, because they have reached the quarter-finals.

Their manager Robert Goethals is a university professor of physical education, too.

Another honour to the club has been the fact that goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff their 25 year old Belgian international has been voted Belgian Player of the Year in front of Dutchmen Robby Rensenbrink and Arie Haan and FC Bruges' Rene Van der Eycken.

At the start of this season there were 73 foreign players in the Belgian First Division. In addition to Albert, Beveren had another two from abroad both in midfield in the shape of Wim Hofkens, a Dutchman, and Heinz Schonberger, another German.

These other foreigners come from 20 different countries and from such widely scattered places as Africa, Haiti, South America, Iceland, Luxembourg and Eastern Europe. Biggest proportion (25) come from across the border in Holland. Germans come next with ten representatives.

Icelander Arnor Gudjohnson plays for Lokeren but needed some strong persuasion to join the club. Coach Urbain Braems discovered him when he was 17 in Reykjavik.

Gudjohnson was interested but did not want to leave his home and family. Eventually he signed but only after Lokeren promised to take his father — only 34 years old — mother and three young sisters to Belgium with him!

Anderlecht's success in the Super Cup was all the more praiseworthy because of the number of injuries they suffered previously which caused a reshuffle of the squad.

Record for Dynamo Berlin

DYNAMO BERLIN'S six point lead at the half-way mark has set up a new record in East Germany and attendances generally are healthy.

After the 13 matches of the first half of a programme which resumes on February 17, the aggregate gates amount to 1,122,000 compared with 1,104,000 at the same stage in 1977-78.

Goalscoring is slightly up as well from 269 to 275.

Dynamo Berlin are also through to the semi-finals of the East German Cup and their coach Jurgen Bogs boasts of being the youngest in the country at only 31.

KOSTER SHOWS PROMISE

HOLLAND'S 3-1 defeat in Dusseldorf against West Germany just before Christmas was, under some analysis, not a particularly disastrous result.

First they were pressing for an equaliser when 2-1 down in the second half and the Germans only managed their third goal with five minutes remaining.

Also the Dutch were without their Anderlecht contingent on Super Cup duty the previous day while injuries caused the non-availability of others like Jan Peters, Rene Van der Kerkhof, Dick Nanninga and Johan Neeskens. In addition Arie Haan had a row with national manager Jan Zwartkruis and seems unlikely to be considered for further selection.

Much is promised by Adrie Koster a 20 year old forward from Roda JC who has shown some speed and skill and inevitably stands out with his blond hair.

His club Roda are the surprises of the first half of the season able to take a lead because of the inconsistencies of Ajax and the lapses of PSV Eindhoven.

Weather conditions caused the postponement of the NEC Nijmegen v. PSV match on two occasions during the winter break, but even in the good weather crowds are poor indeed.

PSV are the best supported side at present with an average home gate of 22,375. Feyenoord come next with 20,775 though it seems incredible that only a few years ago they were the biggest draw with crowds over 50,000 each week.

Ajax come next with 14,100 which is still an improvement on last season and then Roda with 13,785.

Kees Kist of AZ 67 is the leading scorer on the Continent with 21 goals.

Holland have an international with Italy scheduled for February but are hoping to switch the venue from Dutch soil because they cannot be sure of getting a big crowd. And that just about sums up the problems as they stand at present.

PORTO AHEAD

THE weather has played its part in Porto being able to leap-frog over Benfica again at the top of the table. Three matches called off because of heavy rain included Benfica's game at Viseu being abandoned after 37 minutes.

Thus Porto have gone back to the top after beating Setubal 5-1 to establish a point lead over Benfica who have a match in hand of course.

Porto had themselves beaten Viseu 6-1 with Gomes coming back to something like form with a hat-trick. Yet Viseu's Joaquim Rocha scored the best of the seven.

In fact it is difficult to keep Viseu out of the news. Though they were losing 1-0 to Benfica when the game was called off, they did manage to get off the bottom of the table again by drawing 1-1 at home with Braga, leaving Maritimo at the foot with an inferior goal difference.

Partizan win Mitropa Cup

PARTIZAN BELGRADE won the Mitropa Cup beating the Hungarian League leaders Honved 1-0 but have stayed in the headlines with the resignation of their manager.

Ante Mladinic has packed up rather surprisingly perhaps in view of this success and there is now a lengthy 'short' list of people being named as his successor.

Footballer of the Year in Yugoslavia is Vahid Halilhodzic the Velez striker who finished ahead of Nenad Stojkovic of Partizan and Wilson Dzoni of Dynamo Zagreb.

The Yugoslavian League programme resumes for its second half encounters on March 4.

CROWDS SLUMP IN AUSTRIA . . .

ALTHOUGH crowds are pretty meague in Austria at present, the half-way stage of the season produced a rather heartening increase. The average gate has gone up from 5,200 to 6,651.

And since in the second half of the 1977-78 progcramme interest dropped off even more alarmingly with the average going under 5,000, there might be cause for controlled optimism at the end of this term.

At present it seems that Austria/WAC will be crowned champions but they are not the best supported team in the League. That honour goes to Voest Linz who have averaged 9,950 so far with newly promoted and occasionally impressive Austria Salzburg getting the next best figures at 8,555.

Austria/WAC have had to be content with 8,000 average crowds but with veteran Thomas Parits emerging as the top scorer with 16 goals from 18 matches and new capture from the Second Division Walter Schachner at last revealing some of his World Cup potential, they look good for another title.

Trainer Hermann Stessl a former midfield player with Graz AK has done well enough though his early season hope of using the Chilean striker Carlos Sintas as the spearhead failed miserably.

Since the *Bundesliga* of ten teams was formed in 1974 there have been a number of managerial changes affecting the top clubs. Changeover number 30 arrived when Gerdi Springer was appointed boss of AK Graz.

Now another is in the offing perhaps with the news that Lajos Baroti who was in charge of Hungary's World Cup side is going to SW innsbruck shortly as an adviser on the technical staff. He might eventually take over it seems.

Riot in Turkey

Galatasaray's encounter with rivals Fenerbahce in Turkey was the scene of a fierce riot after Galatasaray had disputed a referee's decision. Our top picture shows police moving in to protect the referee and linesmen from protesting Galatasaray players. Below police climb into the stands to chase unruly spectators who threw rocks, cans and other paraphernalia onto the field. Violent incidents at football matches are on the upswing in Turkey and armed military commandos have been forced to guard stadiums with automatic weapons.

1978 INTERNATIONAL RECORDS

	Total							Home					Away					To
	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	x	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	%
Argentina	15	10	2	1	28	7		1	0	1	3	3	11	2	2	31	10	80
Brazil	12	2	0	0	5	0		5	4	1	12	5	7	4	1	17	5	75
Uruguay	4	1	1	0	2	0		0	1	1	0	3	1	2	1	2	3	50
Peru	11	0	1	1	2	4		3	1	5	9	17	3	2	6	11	21	36

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW 78
Eric Weil looks at South America

Argentina plan tours

THE three World Cup finalists — Argentina, Brazil, Peru — and Uruguay were the only four of the 10 South American countries active in full international matches during 1978.

Of the 33 matches played (nine between themselves) 17 were in the World Cup finals held in Argentina and apart from Peru's solitary full international with Mexico (which they won 1-0) in Los Angeles, only Brazil went on tour — to Europe where they suffered their only defeat of the year (1-0 v France in Paris) and only the first since September, 1975, when Peru beat them in a South American championship semi-final leg.

Forgetting the World Cup itself, the 1978 table shows Brazil with a better record than that of World Cup winners Argentina, because it must be taken into account that while Argentina gained 80 per cent of their points to Brazil's 75 per cent — which in itself is virtually the same thing — Argentina played 13 matches at home and only two away, while Brazil did virtually the opposite, playing only twice at home and the remaining 10 matches away (three in Europe).

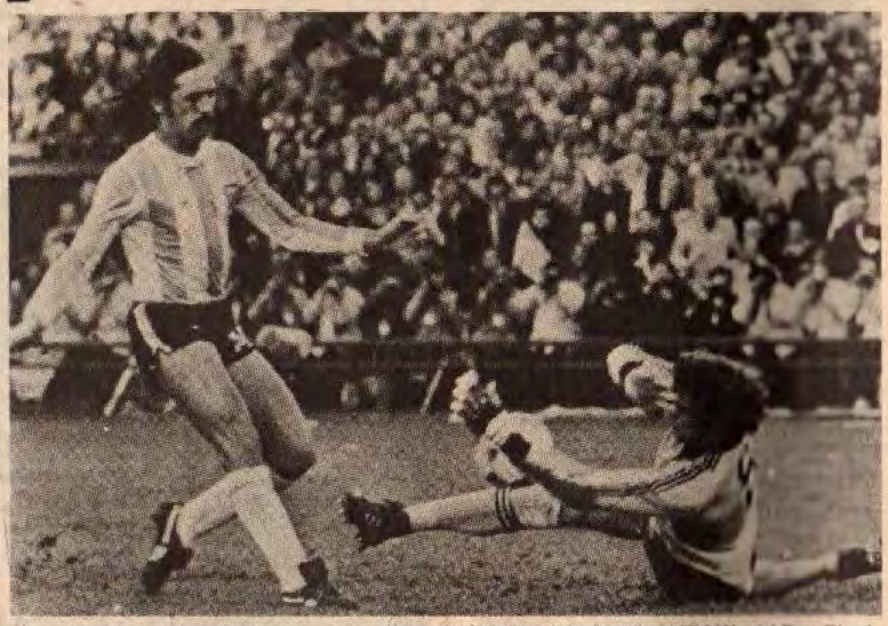
The difference in Argentina's favour was in goals scored (31 in 15 matches to only 17 in 12) and, when one analyses it deeper, in tactics. Argentina played attacking soccer all the way — which, in the end, also won them the World Cup — while Brazil may have had the players to do better, but used "European tactics" alien to their style of play.

Giants

The two giants of South American soccer met only once during the year — in the World Cup semi-final group — and it was a rough 0-0 draw. The result suited Argentina in the end, but Brazil were closer to victory on the day and it was perhaps the match prior to the final on which the World Cup hung most.

While at the time of writing nine South American countries have their eyes on the South American Junior Championship which was being held in Uruguay in January and which qualfied two teams directly for the Junior World Cup in Japan later in the year, there should nevertheless also be more senior activity this year.

The South American Football Confederation wants to hold the South American (nations) Championship again this year (between June and August) for the first time since 1975 and final details were to be worked out at their meeting in Montevideo during the South American Junior Championships. Brazilian delegates were going to present a plan making these championships an annual affair with all 10 countries playing each other home and away in midweek games during the league season. They would also like to see Mexico and the United States invited to participate after this year — a plan already mentioned in last October's WORLD SOCCER.



Luque of Argentina (left) against Jongbloed of Holland during the 1978 World Cup Final.

And while Peru says it will have its national team in permanent activity this year, Argentina has already arranged two tours to Europe this year. On May 22 they face Holland in Zurich in a replay of the 1978 World Cup final as part of the festivities of the inauguration of FIFA's new building. Four days later they play Italy in Rome and then Ireland in Dublin — a match of special significance because it will be an all Ireland team. A second tour, including a match against West Germany, is scheduled for September.

But World Cup coach Cesar Menotti is unlikely to accompany them. The chances of his signing another contract with the Argentine FA (when his present one ran out at the end of 1978) were diminishing every day at press time because the gulf between demand and offer was too wide. Menotti, after cutting down his demand considerably to 80 million pesos for re-signing and a monthly salary of seven million pesos reajustable every three months (£44,000 and £3,900 respectively) was still way above the FA's financial possibilities of 40 million pesos for signing and four million pesos a month.

WORLD CUP 1986: TO BE OR NOT TO BE

While six Colombian towns — Cali, Medellin, Barranquilla, Bucaramanga, Pereira and Ibagúe — are applying to stage World Cup final games in 1986, apart from Bogotá which would be the main centre, the Colombian government is presently having a complete financial study made before a decision is taken on whether Colombia can organsie the event or not. At the same time, a leading newspaper, "El Espectador", had organised a poll among its readers on whether Colombia should stage the World Cup and after some 30,000 votes had come in, a slight majority (52.61 per cent) was against it, mainly because of the expense.

THE PRICE OF DEFEAT

Thirteen players of the Peruvian World Cup team, as well as several officials including coach Marcos Calderon, have been requested to pay customs duties totalling 11,578 dollars on items they brought back in their luggage from Argentina with the biggest bill going to star midfielder Teofilo Cubillas.

Trabzonspor lead the way

AT the halfway stage of the championship in Turkey the Trabzonspor club held a one point lead over Fenerbahce, with Galatasaray a further three points adrift (writes Hasan Cemali).

The remarkable thing about Trabzonspor's record this season is that international goalkeeper Senol has conceded only one goal in 15 matches.

The leading goalscorer is Ozer from Adanaspor, who scored eight goals. The overall average in league matches here is just 1.9 (229 goals in 119 matches), which is very low.

The second half of the season will start on February 10.

Pictured above are the Galatasaray players after they had thrashed Goztepe 6-1

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Mixed fortunes for the Greeks

GREEK FOOTBALL looks back on a year of mixed fortunes. The domestic game is certainly in turmoil and the early departure of the four clubs engaged in European tournaments has only added fuel to the fires of criticism voiced by the sporting Press and concerning the mismanagement at club level.

The silver lining was unexpectedly provided by the national team, who surprised even their most ardent followers with two remarkable victories in the European Championship: An 8-1 triumph over Finland was the Greeks first win for 17 months and the highest ever in an international. This was followed by a cracking 4-1 victory against Hungary to put Greece at the top of the qualifying group VI.

And so the national side, for so long the butt of jokes and the "poor relation" is suddenly in vogue. Manager Alketas Panagulias is now the most sought after personality and he appears in an endless stream of interviews. Since he took over, in the summer of 1977, Panagulias, who was already once the national chief (1947-76), has gradually rejuvenated the squad, disposing of long established, but obviously aged stars like Papaioannou, Domazos, Tersanidis and Koudas. Occasionally he would bring back the old hands, but merely to add experience.

On the other hand, he has persevered with schemer Delikaris (Panathinaikos) who is suspended for League championship matches till March, but is still regarded as the "brains" of the national side. Most impressive too were the strikers Thomas Mavros who scored four goals v. Finland and Mike Galakos (once with Fortuna Düsseldorf) who hit two against Hungary.

by Arthur Rotmil

Programme

The domestic programme began earlier than usual (instead in October already on September 3), and this has meant an unusually fierce transfer market activity. The veteran schemer Mimis Domazos, now 37 and holder of some 50 caps, left Panathinaikos for the champions AEK Athens for a modest fee of £60,000.

Another international, centre foreward Antoniadis, 32 (19 caps) was also transferred from the "Panas" to Olympiakos for just £20,000. The Piraeus club sold Delikaris 27 (21 caps) to Panathinaikos for £60,000. The player himself collected £75,000 signing-on fee, for having served Olympiakos as a professional for eight years.

Olympiakos were in fact the biggest spenders having engaged seven new players: Perone (ex-Nacional Montevideo), Antoniadis, Kaltzas (Panseiralkis), Michos (Panaitolikos), Theodoridis (AEK), Papadopoulos (Ethnikos), Rohrbach (Ethnikos), who altogether cost £200,000. Panathinaikos signed, apart from Delikaris, the Argentinian Gomes Benitez, the German Wagner and Yfantidis (ex-Veroia) who alone cost £162,000.

The oft repeated accusations that too many foreign players occupy key positions in club sides and thus prevent the grooming of home bred talent, seem rather exaggerated. In the Greek League each club is allowed to field only two foreign "mercenaries". At the moment only five clubs have no imported men on their books. All told, there are 25 players from abroad active in the First Division: nine Argentinians, six Yugoslavs, three Germans, two each from Britain, Peru and Bulgaria and one Brazilian.

The managerial changes were started by the champions AEK, who lost the Yugoslav Zlatko Cajkovski (to FC Zurich), but found an exciting replacement in the famous Hungarian Ferenc Puskas. The now 51-year-old Magyar returned to Greece where he led Panathinaikos to the European Cup Final in 1971, losing to Ajax at Wembley.

Under new management are also PAOK Salonika, who engaged the German-Pole Egon Piechaczek. He was formerly assistant coach at Bayern Munich and Kaiserslautern. But Panathinaikos also parted company with their manager, the former Polish national coach Kazimierz Gorski.

The crisis began last season when Gorski clashed with the international Domazos and Antoniadis who both refused to train with the rest of the team, where suspended till the end of term and finally sold. Gorski also left because he did not get the support of the club's board, who at the start of this season only voted by 12-9 for his retention.

Panathinaikos are considering an approach to the Austrian Ernst Happel, who has done well with FC Bruges in Belgium and also led the Dutch national team to the World Cup Final. But Puskas has advised the "Panas" against the Austrian: "He is used to working with full time professionals who train twice a day and his ideas of discipline will not suit the mentality of the Greek players," claims Puskas. Whether the Greeks can afford Happel is of course quite another matter.

The surprise team of the season are Ethnikos, rated relegation material at the start, but now challenging for the title. Ethnikos have never been champions and only once won the Cup (before the war): the club has profited from the engagement of an English coach, Brian Barts.

He caused a stir towards the end of last season when he dismissed seven established players and replaced them with amateurs. The rebuilt side is a mixture of youth and experience. Barts also engaged two Englishmen, Akles and Brown, whose confidence and fighting spirit have lifted the whole team. Ethnikos' recent 3-1 win over the title holders AEK Athens was a warning that the team has truly "arrived" and has no respect even before the champions.

Another club mounting a powerful challenge are Aris Salonika who were last champions way back in 1946 but are now determined to break the incredible monopoly by the "Big Three" from Athens, who since the war, with only two exceptions, have cornered the coveted national title!

Latest: Panathinaikos have engaged as coach Lakis Petropoulos (48) the former national manager.

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NO TO 24 TEAM CUP FINALS—LET'S

THE grand old man of football lives in Holland Park, W.11. To visit him is not so much a social occasion, but a pilgrimage into the home of international football itself. He is, of course, Sir Stanley Rous, still active, still contributing, still representing real "values" in an era of "pragmatism". Someone once wrote this about Sir Stanley: "No one knows more of football throughout the world or has contributed more to its development than Rous, the man who for half a century has been the personification of English football on the international scene."

The LESLIE VERNON interview with SIR STANLEY ROUS

His "Englishness" indeed always delights me, although it is not surprising that he didn't become a cosmopolitan character through his dealings with "foreigners".

One often finds that the most typical Englishman lives in the jungle of Borneo or in an upstairs flat in Buenos Aires. But Rous is "old-fashioned" enough to be loyal to institutions he has been connected with, not to reveal confidences, not to stab ex-colleagues in the back.

His new, excellent book, "Football Worlds", was criticised for not being "sensational" enough. This is like saying that "Tristan and Isolde" is disappointing because there are no hit tunes in it. Sir Stanley is a respected statesman of football, not a here today gone tomorrow "star" footballer, who for a few shekels would obligingly "reveal" anything, as long as it is lucratively serialised in a "pop-newspaper".

Rous is a busy man. While I was sitting in his study, the telephone rang constantly, and his travelling schedule would exhaust a man half his age. Last year, for instance, he visited New Zealand, Fiji, Australia, Hungary, Luxembourg, Holland, Argentina during the World Cup, the U.S.A., where he is President of the Detroit Express football team, and Switzerland, where he still attends F.I.F.A. and U.E.F.A. functions.

His future plans include a visit to Monaco, where there will be an "International Sport Summit", organised by a marketing company whose incomprehensible brochure does not give a clue about the nature of the conference. Visits to America, and to Switzerland, where F.I.F.A. will celebrate its 75th anniversary with a World Cup Final "repeat" between Argentina and Holland are also on his itinerary.

"What did you think of the World Cup?"

"It lacked outstanding personalities. No Pele, Beckenbauer or Bobby Charlton. I liked Rossi, of Italy, but he hasn't got the stature of a world-class player yet. Holland has lost its impact, the Germans were disappointing. But on the whole, the tournament was splendidly organised. What I liked most was the public's response to their victories. Not only the people in the stadium, but the whole country seemed to be celebrating after every game. And it was all spontaneous, not forced as it is sometimes the case. Altogether, the Argentinian people were kind, hospitable, friendly, a great "propaganda" exercise for them in the best sense of the word. But the football, well, let's say we have seen better!"

"Refereeing?"

"It wasn't as good or consistent as in previous World Cups. F.I.F.A. did their best, as always, with careful selection which goes back two years, when assessors went to see every candidate more than once, courses, literature, a training camp in Argentina. But the referees didn't respond, maybe they were influenced by the crowd."

Host country

"Are you in favour of 24 teams in the Final?"

"Certainly not. It is a hopeless idea for several reasons. Let us assume that Spain will be able to stage a tournament with 24 countries, but I am sure that Colombia wont be capable of doing the same in 1986. We cannot change the number of Finalists to suit the host country. And in my view, *football must pay for itself.* It is all very well to obtain revenue from other sources, but a World Cup must be self-supporting through the gates' receipts.

"In Argentina, they managed to fill the stadiums for unimportant matches, but with 24 teams, the number of this type of game will go up — will the Spanish public be interested in, let's say, watching Nigeria against Bulgaria? I well remember the occasion when England played Hungary in Chile, and there were around 2,000 people in the stadium.

"Out of those, 1,999 were listening to their transistor radios, where commentaries of other games were relayed. And we must not forget the qualifying competition, either! If everyone will get into the Finals — they are even talking about 'inviting' teams! — there will be no interest left in the qualifying competition. That's two years without any real competitive football — all for the sake of two extra long unnecessary weeks in Spain.

"No, I would have only eight teams in the Final, not unlike the forthcoming European Championship. By all means arrive at 16 finalists, then have an extra home and away round of matches to halve that number. Imagine the excitement these games would create. The stadiums would be full, and the World Cup itself would feature only the eight strongest teams."

"Where do you stand concerning the controversy surrounding the Olympic football tournament?"

"It is a terrible muddle. The Eastern Europeans are right to be furious! The agenda for the Olympic Congress has to be laid down and circulated three months in advance. Then suddenly, someone gets up at the Conference and makes a proposal, which several people don't even understand because of the translation. The chairman should have ruled it out of order!

"But, no, the proposal was accepted, and according to it, European and South American players who took part in the World Cup, are banned from playing in the Olympics. Why? Are they any less amateurs than the ones who didn't play? Either they are all cheats or they are all genuine amateurs. It must be left to the National Associations to decide.

"It was adding insult to injury when they 'drew' all the Eastern European countries into one qualifying group. You are asking me whether I'll be in Moscow. When the project of giving the Games to Russia was first mooted, I asked their representative, Andrianov, whether every country would be welcomed there. "Of

MS IN WORLD 'S HAVE EIGHT!

'Good football in modern stadiums is a winning recipe . . .'

course," he answered. "How about the fans?" "Naturally," he replied. "How about me?" I asked, remembering my part in the disqualification of the U.S.S.R., when they refused to travel to Chile for a qualifying match. "You, Rous, will get a ticket to Siberia." "Will it be a single or a return?" I enquired politely."

"Has football a future in America?"

"They have an immense advantage in having super stadiums. When I first went there with Phil Woosnam, I couldn't see the usual crowd going towards the stadium. Phil told me to wait until we got there. And the place was full with families sitting in modern bars, restaurants, cafes. Ten minutes before the kick-off, there was a loudspeaker announcement, and people took their seats — seats for everyone, mind you! The transport situation, parking facilities, are all excellent — space-age football! But they must stop changing the laws of the game, they don't need gimmicks. Good football in modern stadiums is a winning recipe — the game itself is the attraction!"

"How would you solve the hooliganism problem?"

"I would use guard-dogs to protect the pitch. Just a couple at each end are amazingly effective. Colleges for leisure training is another idea I like. As people have more and more time for leisure, they have to be taught how to utilise it best. Youngsters would also benefit by learning how to spend their spare-time. Football clubs should open their doors more — they should be centres for the community. Kids must have a sense of belonging. You do not destroy the thing you are part of, do you? I know that this is not a new idea, but while the clubs talk about it, very few of them have done anything positive!"

"What do you think of present-day football?"

"It's all too defensive, predictable. Every game has the same pattern. A forward pass is inevitably followed by a back pass — 'laying off the ball' — they call it. And there is too much shouting amongst the players in English football. When a player is in possession, he is shouted at by five of his team-mates — this must be confusing, break his concentration.

"I was watching Sheffield United the other day, and their Argentinian Sabella had a splendid game. Their manager, Harry Haslam, said that the boy played well because he couldn't understand what the others were telling him. Referees should book players for constantly shouting — it is ungentlemanly and self-destructive."

Eight teams in the World Cup Final, Olympic muddle, proper offside rules in America, this tall, ageless, very English football diplomat with the distinctive voice is certainly no yes-man!

Daniel Bertoni scores the third goal for Argentina against Holland in extra time of the 1978 World Cup Final.

Brazilian players after third place victory over Italy.

RIVER PLATE UNSTOPPABLE

from ERIC WEIL

IF the Argentine national championship showed anything in its qualifying stage it was that River Plate — playing a full strength team with their sights on the title — were virtually unstoppable, even if their success was based mainly on the individual skill of players such as World Cup stars Fillol (goal), Passarella (back), Alonso (midfield) and Luque (forward) as well as forward Galletti who added punch to the attack and half J. Lopez and others. To win this title was River Plate's only remaining chance to enter the 1979 Libertadores Cup. They won their first six qualifying group games and only lost their next to last match after they had become the first team to make sure of a quarter final place going to the top two of each of four groups.

This one defeat had an unhappy ending however. Mendoza's San Martin gained the winner for the 4-3 home victory in the final minute and seconds later Fillol, who had saved River Plate from several defeats earlier in the championship with brilliant performances, but has rarely been beaten four times in a match, kicked an opponent who was wasting time with a free kick near goal.

He was sent off and later suspended for five games which was going to keep him out of the team until the finals. On the way to the changing room a Mendoza photographer approached to take his picture, saying: "So this is Argentina's World Cup goalkeeper." That was the last straw for Fillol who went for the photographer and the free for all which followed (with other photographers and River Plate reserves joining in) ended with Fillol, two team mates and coach Labruna being taken to the police station. The annual awards for top sportsmen were due to be given out by the Argentine Sportswriters Club the following day and Fillol, a strong candidate, was struck off the list by the committee for "unsporting behaviour" which provoked a lot of argument.

Other quarter final qualifiers were:

Colon (Santa Fe) — second to River Plate in group D, but by the widest margin of six points.

Talleres (Cordoba) — again the only non-First Division club, but lining up World Cup players Oviedo, Galvan and Valencia and playing in front of record home gates at Cordoba's World Cup stadium while attendance at most other matches, especially in Buenos Aires, was poor. Talleres also provided the championship's top scorer (before the quarter finals) in Reinaldi with 15 goals after he netted four in the last match — a 7-1 win over Salta's Juventud Antoniana which left the group topping Cordoba team as leading scorers with 37 goals in 14 games, although the win was no longer necessary to put them in the quarter finals.

Huracan — revitalised with the return from Europe of their former World Cup midfielder Babington who, apart from being their top scorer with 12 goals (in 10 games played) organised play and brought out the best in the Sanabria brothers who also became profilic scorers.

Independiente — the defending champions who won several vital points with late goals from their top scorer Outes.

Velez Sarsfield — not outstanding, but showing great improvement under new coach Omar Sivori, the former Argentine and Italian international.

Racing — also not too impressive, but improved after team changes made by new coach Urriolabeitia. Yet they were a bit lucky to edge out Newell's Old Boys (by a point) who seemed a better team with their strong midfield provided by Berta and World Cup player Gallego.

Union (Santa Fe) — who stretched their unbeaten run from the first division championship to 22 games before surprisingly going down to non-first division opponents Patronato from Entre Rios by 1-0. But their organised counter attack and midfield control (where Pitarch stood out again apart from being leading scorer) made them worthy

San Lorenzo de Almagro, left to right: (standing) Sanz, Olguin, La Volpe, Collavini, Cristofanelli, Luppo. (front) Torres, Marangoni, Rizzi, Fischer, Simaldone.

Former World Cup midfielder Babington, whose return to Huracan from abroad has revitalised the Argentine first division team, about to score frbm one of his many penalties. Behind him is team mate Dante Sanabria, another leading scorer in the team which came second in it's group to qualify for the National Championships quarter finals.

group winners with the championship's best defensive record (six goals against).

On the negative side there was:

Libertadores Cup and unofficial world club champion Boca Juniors again fielding reserve teams on several occasions while winning the two-legged Libertadores Cup final and while playing the New York Cosmos in a friendly. This was not good enough to qualify although they won most of their matches with the first team which, nevertheless, seldom found punch in attack.

It was still hard to understand however that in the next to last game, when still retaining a qualifying chance, they fielded numerous reserves against Gimnasia y Esgrima (Mendoza) and crashed to their heaviest home defeat (5-1) in a long time. This can be partly explained however by the fact that former international goalkeeper Gatti was sent off for swearing at the referee after the second goal — and later suspended for 14 matches — when Boca had already made their two permitted substitutions. Defender Bordon had to take over in goal.

First Division champions Quilmes failed to repeat their performances in the national championship and after the first few games they sent 13 first team players on an early holiday and carried on playing with reserves to finish a point off the bottom of their group. Behind them were San Lorenzo who also sent eight first teamers on holiday halfway through the competition, then sacked coach Adolfo Pedernera under whom, for a time, they had shown great improvement earlier in the year when he took over.

In Colombia:

ARGENTINE COACHES 1-2-3

Millionarios, of Bogotá, won the Colombian championship for the 11th time by winning the close four-team final round for which two foreign referees (from Uruguay and Argentina) had been specially signed on, but which was not entirely incident free.

The three teams coached by Argentines took the first three places. New champions Millionarios had signed Pedro Dellacha earlier in the season when it looked as if they would not even qualify for the finals. Deportivo Cali, the 1978 vice-champions and the first Colombian team ever to reach the Libertadores Cup final, who started the final round with the disadvantage of having just played two tough final matches against Argentina's Boca Juniors while the other three clubs had a two-week rest, are under Carlos Bilardo. Third-placed Nacional, whose performances may have been affected by internal problems over bonus payments, are under Osvaldo Zubeldia, a former Argentine national team coach.

ELSEWHERE . . .

● PERU'S most popular teams, champions Alianza Lima and Universitario de Deportes were fighting it out for the title with four matches to go.

The former, lining up a mostly national team which, it is rumoured, will emigrate before next season, lead by a point. But Alianza took over the lead with seven matches to go when they beat Universitario 2-1 with Sotil scoring the winner two minutes from the end — apparently with his hand — and Universitario fans tried to burn down the stadium.

But anothr curious incident happened in the relegation zone as a result of which next to bottom Deportivo Junin are claiming the points from their 2-1 defeat at Leon de Huanuco. The latter's player coach and former Peruvian international, Julio Melendez, was sent off for protesting as coach and then reappeared on the field as a player. He continued to protest the referee's decisions and was eventually sent off again.

● IN BRAZIL. Flamengo beat Vasco da Gama 1-0 on the last day in front of 141,000 fans to displace their rivals at the top of the table and win the 1978 Carioca (Rio de Janeiro) Championship.

Third-placed Fluminese meanwhile protested to FIFA that they could not cash Saudi Arabian club El Halel's first cheque of 200,000 dollars forming part of the 800,000 dollar transfer fee for World Cup midfielder Rivelino and FIFA promptly suspended the player from playing for his new club.

● URUGUAY'S Peñarol won all five matches in the six team final round to pick the country's two representatives for the 1979 Libertadores Cup, beating traditional rivals Nacional 3-0 in the process and leaving them in second place.

Peñarol, coached for the last couple of years by Brazilian Dino Sani, thus won all three Uruguayan competitons during 1978 — First Division, Major League and six team final "Liguilla".

● ECUADOR'S Nacional (Quito) won the Closing Championship on better goal difference over Barcelona to add to their Opening Championship title and go into the final round with Barcelona, Emelec and Tecnico Universitario as virtual champions as they get a six point bonus — three points for winning each title.

The second and third placed team in each championship gets two and one point respectively. Peru's World Cup coach, Marcos Calderon, took Barcelona from the verge of relegation after the Opening Championship to almost winning the Closing Championship.

● CHILE's O'Higgins won the four-team tournament between teams placed second to fifth in the first division to earn the right to accompany champions Palestino into the 1979 Libertadores Cup.

FRANCE by Andre Duclos

Strasbourg look to recharge their batteries

WILL the winter break allow Strasbourg to recharge their batteries and go hot foot after the title again? Some time before they crashed out of the UEFA Cup, 4-0 at Duisburg, it was evident enough that they were a weary, tiring team. Did Gilbert Gress, their manager, once a Bundesliga player, push them too hard, demanding the kind of energy and effort you can ask of West German players but not of French?

There were those who felt he did. Gress wanted Total Football, and although some of his Strasbourg team were none to keen on the idea, Total Football, or at any rate a version of it, was what he got, sending the Strasbourg club flying up the League, the early pace-setters. But the team was clearly living above its means, and as time went on it altered. A 0-0 draw at home to the Duisburg side, a heavy defeat in the League by Nantes, then the collapse in Duisburg itself. But with the break, as I have said, it may be that we shall see Strasbourg flying high again. Like wild geese?

Flying higher all the time, meanwhile, are Nantes, whose young forwards, revelations of the 1976 Montreal Olympic tournament, have now found their touch again, after the disappointment of being passed over for the World Cup team, Baronchelli, on the right, Pecout, powerful in the middle and Amisse, on the left, are now showing the form that eluded them earlier in the season, while in goal, Bertrand-Demanes is playing as well as ever he has. It cannot be a bad team when a player as accomplished as the Argentinian 1974 World Cup defender, Bargas, cannot get into the side but sits on the bench.

Formidable challenge

A couple of goals by thie left sided midfielder, Piasecki, allowed Strasbourg to keep Monaco briefly at bay, but last season's League champions have also recovered some of their élan, inspired from midfield by Santini, Saint Etienne look a formidable chllenger for the title which has in recent years so often been theirs. Santini is scoring goals as well as making them, while the robust Argentine centre-back Oswaldo Piazza, who missed the World Cup finals because of a motor accident involving his wife and child, is in dominant form.

"I'm never happier," he says, significantly, "than when I come off the field exhausted, at the limit of my resources. That's part of how I see my profession and even life itself; to get, you have to give. In my view, life is above all an exchange."

Piazza this season is giving plenty. He looks back on most of last season with dismay. Something was wrong with his back, possibly the discs pressing on the sciatic nerve. The worst of it was, as he himself says, that nobody was ever quite sure. But he was in constant pain, form declined in consequence, and that of the whole Saint Etienne team, in its turn.

Now, he says, there's nothing to remind him of his sufferings but the merest occasional twinge. "I recognise that my 1977/8 season was mediocre," he says, "and I have a horror of mediocrity."

Veteran defender

Another vetran defender who has returned to form this season — and to his old club, Nimes, besides — is Michael Mézy, once a left sided midfielder for club and country, now a libero. He left for a couple of seasons at Lille which, he says, were the two most highly professional of his career, but now he is happily back again, largely because his father died and he wanted to look after his mother.

The family owns a bar in Nimes, playing libero, he says, is above all a question of keeping mentally constantly alert; there is a great deal less running to be done. When he does come into attack, he says, the consequence is that he has a great deal of stamina which he can exploit.

Some years ago, you may remember, Brest, in the Second Division, a Breton club, were proud of an English defender called Nigel Page-Jones. Nigel was caught in something of a Catch 22 quandary. An accomplished left sided defender, either at left-half or left-back, he was plainly quite good enough to figure in First Division football. But Brest — technically an amateur club — hadn't any ambition to play non-regional football, frightened as they were of the extra expense, while any actual move to a First Division side was blocked by the fact that Page-Jones' wife, a girl from Brest, was most reluctant to leave her native city.

This season, ironically, when Page-Jones has gone, Brest are enjoying great success, and at least have their sights firmly set on the First Division. At the start of the season, Brest would have been happy with a place in the first five of the league; they had no thoughts at all of promotion. Instead, they got away to a galloping start. Their player-manager, Alain De Martigny, attributes this in part to the very dry early winter. Usually, he points out, it is impossible for the club to use their own stadium for training, such is the condition of the pitch. So while the local farmers were all praying for rain, De Martigny was hoping it would stay dry. De Martigny, 32 years old and once, like Mézy, with Lille, is your old fashioned kind of libero, staying at the back and very rarely committing himself up field. But it seems to work.

Another factor in the team's improvement, De Martigny thinks, is that he usually now gets a dozen players together for training, where in the past their jobs kept so many of them away that he was lucky to get more than five or six. He is full of praise for a right winger only a year younger than himself, Louis Floch, whose form has galvanised the attack this season; and who has to travel farther than anybody else to training.

The stadium is a problem; as De Martigny puts it, politely, the team is superior to its infrastructure. The Achilles heel of Brest, some call the bleak and uncomfortable ground. Before one recent game against Limoges, the club President, Bannaire, deliberately made it known that the ground would be packed, so as to deter would-be fans who might make a row when they were turned away. There's deadlock between Brest municipality and the State, each saying the other should pay for a new stadium. We shall see. Meanwhile, Brest flourish.

French President Giscard d'Estaing shakes hands with French star Michel Platini (right) standing next to Dominique Rocheteau and Dominique Dropsy.

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OLYMPIC SOCCER SHOULD CONTINUE

Says ERIC BATTY

WHEN Great Britain, pressed by the English Football Association, decided not to enter for any more Olympics soccer tournaments they set an example that one hoped would be followed by other Europeans like the French, the Italians, the Dutch and the Spaniards.

The FA action was prompted by the knowledge that although it could not be proved in a court of law, everyone involved in the game knew that the top amateur clubs were in fact paying their players and were not amateurs. Since that decision, we have had professionals, amateurs and non-amateurs in England.

They have them all over Western Europe, too, but the respective Associations turn a blind eye to under-the-counter payments — the £20 'expenses' per week etc. As a result, Austria, Denmark, Finland, West Germany, Greece, Eire, Italy, Holland, Norway, Spain and Turkey will all field teams of 'shamateurs' in the Olympics.

FIFA has very wisely ruled that all players who took part in the 1978 World Cup, even the qualifying matches, are ineligible for the Olympics, though this has incurred the wrath of IOC President Lord Killanin who, no doubt under pressure from members of the IOC in Eastern Europe, is trying to get the FIFA decision rescinded.

FIFA's decision is not a precedent, for it has been done before and in my view, if it does not ban the shamateurs, it goes a long way towards keeping them out and is the best possible compromise.

It is of course the countries of Eastern Europe who rock the boat in the Soccer Olympics for when they have been able to do so they have fielded their full international sides, just as East Germany did in Montreal.

Having travelled widely in Europe, I know for a fact that in the West the top amateur clubs do pay their players, and I also know that in the East the best can be said for the players who compete in the First and Second Divisions of the national league are 'non-amateurs'.

Throughout Eastern Europe the players have *nominal* jobs, and the national associations insist that their players are amateurs purely on the grounds that their national laws do not permit professional sport. Thus they argue they must all be amateurs.

Countless players from Eastern Europe have told me what they are paid, both in terms of monthly salaries and win bonuses etc.

True, as these players have bitterly complained, they are not paid anything like as well as their counterparts in Western Europe, but they are paid — both by their clubs and by their nominal employers, who in some cases are one and the same; for example where a club is subsidised by a state owned factory.

One international from Eastern Europe told me that although well paid by comparison with other workers in his country, he did not receive enough to secure his future when he gives up playing, as do stars in the west.

"When I quit," he told me ruefully, "I shall have to work as a taxi driver or something like that."

But being honest, it is no good having a go at the Associations in Eastern Europe as long as countries in the West continue to field 'shamateurs'. Some go even further, for I can recall the former FC Internazionale star Sandro Mazzola playing for Italy in the Olympics while a pro with his club, purely on the grounds that as he was studying in the evenings, that made him a 'student'.

The FA's in the West are clearly not going to follow the lead of the English FA, and the East Europeans are not going to change their attitude. So if soccer within the framework of the Olympic Games has an future at all, I see it in the shape of a competition exclusively for the developing countries of Africa and Asia. These countries, the Zaires' of 1974 and the Irans' and Tunisias' of 1978 are not true amateurs either, but an Afro-Asian-Caribbean Islands competition would be more amateur than anything else that could be organised. But, here is the rub, it would not pull crowds in the final tournament.

On top of that, while the African and Asian countries are pressing fiercely for more representation in the World Cup (which they do not deserve and should not get), they appear to be largely dis-interested in the Olympics!

At the moment there are only 20 officially recognised entries from Africa and 19 from Asia and some will as usual withdraw. So it seems that while they want in on the World Cup and are prepared to use their massive voting strength to get it, they do not wish to take part in the Olympics which is a competition ready made for them until they can meet European teams on equal terms.

For example, neither Zaire or Tunisia have entered for the 1980 Olympics! If we assume for the moment that soccer will continue to have a place in the Olympics then I would like to see FIFA rule that only players aged under 18 will be eligible from Europe.

Even then we cannot guarantee that they will all be real amateurs, but you will not get any closer on either side of the European dividing line. And as far as the Afro-Asians are concerned, FIFA should rule that any country not participating in the Olympics will not be eligible for the next World Cup.

Otherwise, and it will come to this in the end, there will be not football in the Olympics.

Arsenal sign Talbot

England international Brian Talbot signed for Arsenal from Ipswich Town for a fee of £450,000. Talbot, who was in the Ipswich Town team which defeated Arsenal in the 1978 FA Cup Final (1-0) is pictured with Arsenal manager Terry Neill, who had been chasing the Ipswich midfield player for several months. Talbot made his debut for Arsenal against League Champions Nottingham Forest and it was a winning bow with the London side finishing 2-1 ahead after trailing 1-0.

The BRIAN GLANVILLE column

IT'S beginning to look depressingly as if the World Cup of 1982 in Spain *will* be contested by 24 rather than 16 clubs; one more blight on the game deriving from João Havelange's Presidential election campaign. I understand that not even the European nations are now standing four square against the wretched move, though UEFA themselves have not relaxed their opposition to it.

By the time you read this, the towel may well have been thrown in, after a meeting in Zurich. A number — too many — of European countries have been beguiled by the greater possibility of qualification, in the event that the field be enlarged. But alas and alack, it now seems exceedingly likely that we shall be obliged to put up with a second African, a second Asian, contestant.

I yield to none in my admiration for the North Korea of 1966, the Tunisia of 1978, but Afro Asian football, for all the brilliant blacks who pour into France, remains far behind Europe and South America.

Danny Blanchflower is pleasingly modest about the achievements of his remarkable Northern Ireland side, but come February 7, they could well give England a fright at Wembley, where they come with five points out of a possible six in their mutual qualifying group. Danny tells me that he feels his chief attainment is to have brought about the transfer of a number of young Northern Irish players such as Derby County's Caskey — scorer of the second Irish goal in Sofia — to England, where they go into full time training.

He tells them, he says, that there is no point in caution, in fearing to lose: "We've been losers for four hundred years!" His problems, he insists, are utterly different from those of England, who have a huge potential choice, while his is so tightly restricted.

What is a "three quarter player"? Castagner, the manager of Perugia, Italy's surprising team of the season, thinks he has one in Gianfranco Casarsa. "Once," says Castagner, "there were midfielders, centre-forwards, wingers. Now there are midfielders, spearheads and three quarters. In modern football, then, Casarsa has a well defined role. He is a three quarter. And in this role, he has no rivals."

For Casarsa, a three quarter is something at once more and less than a spearhead, a player who doesn't play up front as an out and out striker, though he can and does score goals, a player who is also adept at making goals for other people.

But is there anything really new in the concept? Haven't the Italians, for years, been using the term *mezza punta*, semi-striker, for just such players; players we would, in the bygone days of the W formation, have called attacking inside-forwards? Allan Clarke, still scoring goals as the most successful player-manager of Barnsley, is one. Trevor Francis, whose season has been so sadly blemished by injury, is probably another.

Helmut Haller, making a comeback with Augsburg, was described as such the other day in a French magazine. Going considerably further back in the history of the game, David Jack, scorer of the first Cup Final goal at Wembley for Bolton against West Ham in 1923, was very much that kind of player. Arsenal, who invented the third back game in 1925, pulling the inside-forwards back behind three strikers, bought Jack in 1929, but he was still essentially an attacker, scoring a celebrated goal at Highbury against Aston Villa when he beat five men, though, thanks to his glorious swerve, he touched the ball only three times. No, I don't think — as the Italians say — that Casarsa has discovered hot water.

Helmut Haller was at the centre of the row at half-time in the Juventus-Derby County European Cup tie in Turin, the first leg of the 1973 semi-final. It may be remembered that he was in the dressing room of the referee, Schulenberg, before the game, much to Derby's well founded horror, while at half-time, he went up to Schulenberg in the tunnel to chat with him. This properly incensed Peter Taylor who, to put it politely, interposed himself. There followed what may be described as a scuffle.

At the end of the game, a game in which Schulenberg booked Gemmill and McFarland, thus ruling them out of the return, Brian Clough emerged from the Derby dressing-room to say, "No cheating bastards will I talk to. I will not talk to any cheating bastards." He went back inside, re-emerged, and said to me, "Tell them what I said, Brian." I did. In retrospect, he seems to have had a substantial point.

Derby, alas, have continued to be what one might call – again, with the utmost restraint – a controversial club. There has been the Colin Murphy Affair, with the attempt to get Clough back from Nottingham Forest, there has been the Tommy Docherty Saga and now, most recently, the Charlie George Case.

Docherty, who admitted that he "told a pack of lies" in his High Court case against Willie Morgan of Bolton Wanderers, publicly announced that he was prepared to sell Charlie George for £400,000; that it was a chance for George, at 28, to make money out of his transfer. George was allowed to talk to Southampton, West Bromwich Albion and, finally, Nottingham Forest. Suddenly Derby made it known that despite this, he would be allowed only to go to Southampton, of these three; courtesy alone had moved them to let him talk to the other two clubs. We were also informed that far from being released because Derby could afford to do so, and were generously disposed to help him make money, George was being allowed to go only on compassionate grounds; his father, in North London, was ill. There was no chance of his being allowed to join Nottingham Forest, a nearby rival. Nor was there any of his going to Albion.

Now, let it be said at once that in strictly legal, contractual terms, Derby had every right first not to sell George at all, since there were two and a half years of his contract to run, second to sell or not sell him to whomever they pleased. Cries of "soccer slavery", calls for freedom of contract (in which I still very strongly believe) were, in the circumstances, irrelevant, though mutterings about "restraint of trade" may have had more solid foundations.

The point is that if Derby did not want George to join a Midland rival, they should have said so from the first. If they were releasing him on compassionate grounds rather than because he was irrelevant to their needs, they should have said so from the first. As it is, the Charlie George Case has been just one more strain on a thoroughly displeasing season.

The brothers Baresi, of Milan via Travagliato, are an interesting pair. Franco, still only 18, could do nothing to stop Manchester City walking over a surprisingly flaccid Milan at Maine Road in the UEFA Cup, but he is already on the brink of the full international team. Giuseppe, his brother, 21 on February 7 — fateful day — holds a regular place in the Internazionale team.

Sandro Mazzola still speaks of the day he made his debut as an unknown 20-year-old against a powerful Atletico Madrid team in the Cadiz tournament, casually stopping a ball in the thick of the penalty area with his chest, coolly dribbling round Ruben Cano, the Argentine centre-forward, then clearing.

Interviewed, Giuseppe replied, "But don't you know my brother, Franco? He plays libero for Milan. He's better than me, even if he's two years younger. He is the real champion of the Baresi family."

Brotherly love indeed. Meanwhile, both flourish.

WEST GERMANY

DERWALL THE NATI

by Arthur Rotmil

THE WEST GERMAN national team finished 1978 with a splendid 3-1 win over Holland at Düsseldorf. It was, in the words of the leading German radio commentator Armin Hauffer, a wonderful Christmas present for the millions of fans who have now forgotten the disappointments of Argentina and have regained their faith in the national side.

The reshaped team under the command of the new national manager Jupp Derwall has confirmed that it is again probably the strongest in Europe. A 4-3 away victory over the reigning European champions Czechoslovakia and this win against the World Cup runners up Holland, the best placed European side in Argentina, certainly lends support to this claim.

One can of course argue with this assessment, moreover as the Dutch were badly handicapped by the absence of several key men. Haan, Geels and Rensenbrink had to play for their Belgian club Anderlecht, who on the night before the international wrested the European "Super Cup" from Liverpool.

Two possible forward replacements, Kees Kist, the Dutch League's top scorer, and centre forward Dick Nanninga turned down the call up for private reasons, while René Van der Kerkhof dropped out through injury. Nonetheless, the Dutch were still able to field seven men from the side who played in the World Cup Final v Argentina.

But the Germans, too, were not quite at full strength. It has been agreed beforehand that goalkeeper Sepp Maier, now 34, would have to allow a younger man to show he is ready to take over eventually: Dieter Burdenski (28) from Werder Bremen was chosen for his fourth cap.

In midfield Hansi Müller could not, after all, be selected because his suspension cut from eight weeks to four matches had not expired — only because VfB Stuttgart's game v Cologne had had to be postponed! Müller was thus still banned for one match and he missed the international.

But in his place Uli Stielike (24) made his long awaited comeback. Stielike, who left Borussia Mönchengladbach to join Real Madrid, has benefited from the new rule which allows those active abroad to represent West Germany. He already held five caps — the last he gained in February 1977, together with Beckenbauer.

Stielike came into the team alongside another Spanish "mercenary" Rainer Bonhof who figured in an interesting experiment. He was asked to fill the role of a central defender with a roving commission, despite the fact that Gerd Zewe was already playing 'libero'. The Germans took the field with this XI: Burdenski; Kaltz, Zewe, Bonhof, Dietz (captain); Cullman (55 mins. sub. Zimmermann), Stielike, Allofs, Abramczik, (79 mins. sub. Borchers), Fischer, Rummenigge.

Defence

Rummenigge shot the Germans in front after 32 minutes when he took a pass from Zewe and ran through the defence; Fischer scored with a header (57) — his first goal for the national side for a year! His last was the one in the 1-1 draw with Wales in December 1977. After La Ling reduced the arrears for Holland, along came Bonhof with one of his inimitable free kicks which thundered in five minutes from time.

Rainer Bonhoff of West Germany and Valencia.

RESHAPES ONAL TEAM

The circumstances may have been unfortunate for the Dutch (missing so many regulars) but not the result — it is after all 22 years since they last beat the Germans; it happened curiously enough in Düsseldorf (14.3.56), the Dutch winning 2-1.

Since then the West Germans won four and drew two of their meetings with the powerful neighbours.

This was the last friendly international before the West Germans start their campaign in the European Championship in which they oppose Wales (who already won two home games), Turkey and Malta, in Group VII. First encounter will be in Malta on February 25.

On the domestic front the 1.FC Kaiserslautern finished the first half of the season at the top of the Bundesliga. This is a good omen, for in 13 out of 15 years of the National League's existence, the so-called "Herbstmeister" (autumn champion) also won the title! Only Borussia Mönchengladbach (1970) and Bayern Munich (1971) were the exceptions to this rule.

Three clubs are rated favourites for the championship: Kaiserslautern Hamburger SV and VfB Stuttgart. The last named were the only German fallers in the European competitions so far (the other five teams are all in the quarter-finals), and yet, they had the biggest lead from the first leg — 4-1 against Dukla was not enough on an ice-skating rink in Prague, where the Czechs kept their feet beautifully and "skated" to a 4-0 win. Remarkable: They wore the same studs as their national team which impressed against England at Wembley by being so surefooted.

Studs

The fact that these special studs (made of composite nylon-rubber material) are manufactured in Germany by "Adidas", was for VfB Stuttgart the last straw! Last season Stuttgart boasted an average attendance of 54,000 per match — a Bundesliga record. Now this figure dropped to 38,750 and this puts them below FC Nürnberg, who happen to be the bottom club . . .

It is a big loss for the players of VfB Stuttgart whose earnings are related directly to attendances. Luckily for the playing staff of Hertha Berlin that it doesn't have to rely on paying customers for their additional rewards. For the gates at the Olympic stadium have dropped catastrophically — to the UEFA Cup return with Esbjerg came only 3,296! Those who stayed away missed a marvellous exhibition of lethal finishing: Jürgen Milewski, Hertha's 21-year-old striker hit all four goals in the 4-0 rout of the Danes.

But Hertha are in dire financial straits: their deficit is put at £750,000. Their case is exceptional, for attendances on the whole are still booming — in other parts of the country, where spectators flock to the big games between more "fashionable" clubs.

Uli Stielike, at the time of his transfer to Real Madrid from Borussia Monchengladbach.

Another crisis has shaken Bayern Munich and not only because of that humiliating 7-1 defeat by Fortuna Düsseldorf. The internal squabbles and the resistance against the Hungarian-born manager Guyla Lorant have come to a head just before Christmas.

The club's president Wilhelm Neudecker has already warned his players, that Bayern cannot afford to pay excessive salaries if they're not in international competition, or not in contention for the *Bundesliga* title. Lorant himself has alienated several players and he did not appear at the next home match with Hamburger SV. He is currently, as I write, the best paid manager/coach in West German football with a salary of £70,000 basic a year.

But it may be that in order to save his face and Bayern a lot of money Lorant will be gradually "phased" out in Munich. To make matters worse, the great Gerd Müller has announced his retirement at the end of the season. Germany's most prolific goal scorer of all time with over 1,000 goals (including 365 in 425 *Bundesliga* matches and 68 goals in 62 internationals) has had enough of the turmoil at the club and will hang up his boots in June.

History

The third *Bundesliga* manager to leave his club was Werner Kern of the luckless 1.FC Nürnberg, now seriously threatened with relegation. His place was taken by Robert Gebhardt. After the departure of the Yugoslav Milovan Beljin from Arminia Bielefeld and Otto Knefler (Eintracht Frankfurt), who resigned for health reasons, there have now been 84 managerial changes since the foundation of the National League in 1963.

The DFB-Cup has brought some of the biggest sensations in the history of the competition. Two amateur clubs knocked out notable First Division teams: Südwest Ludwigshafen eliminated the Bundesliga leaders Kaiserslautern by 2-1. And SSV Ulm won on the ground of Darmstadt 5-1.

In addition, Second Division *Bayer* Uerdingen put out Schalke by 2-1. In the next round the outstanding pairings are Hertha Berlin v. Cologne (holders) and Borussia Dortmund v. Eintracht Frankfurt. At least one of the amateur teams must reach the quarter finals, for the "giant-killers" Ulm and Ludwigshafen oppose each other on March 3.

Bad blow for the champions Cologne was the continued trouble with Flohe's ankle which has not been right since he sustained the injury in the World Cup match against Italy. The captain and former international schemer was given a three-week break in the hope that he can regain full fitness in the New Year. The Cologne team has been showing some improvement in championship matches, but just before Christmas fell at home to VfB Stuttgart by 1-2. It appears that the defence of the title is a lost cause.

Borussia Mönchengladbach too, have impressed recently, particularly in that stunning performance against Slask Wroclaw in the UEFA Cup. After the disappointing 1-1 home draw the Gladbacher stormed to win 4-2 in Poland, thanks to a hat-trick from the Dane, Allan Simonsen. This earned the BMG players a bonus of 5,000 Marks (£1,250) each.

Real Madrid top . . . but record goes

REAL MADRID are still top, but only one point now separates them from surprising Sporting of Gijon.

Madrid lost their unbeaten record just before Christmas, going down 1-0 to Zaragoza with an unfortunate 37th-minute own goal from San Jose. More trouble arrived later in the game when star winger Juanito twisted a knee and needed a cartilage operation that put him out for two months.

Gijon, meanwhile, were beating Bilbao 4-3 thanks to a hat-trick from skipper Quini, whose appetite for goals appears undiminished by the years.

At least Mario Kempes seems to be regaining his, scoring twice in Valencia's 5-2 win over Sevilla, though it wasn't such a happy game for World Cup-winning colleague Daniel Bertoni. Sevilla's £350,000 signing was sent off in the 77th minute for protesting vehemently about the penalty which provided Kempes's second goal.

Unfortunately, when referee De Sosa came to pull out the red card, he discovered he'd left it in the dressing room, and before he sent Bertoni off he had to run to the touchline to borrow the necessary document from a linesman!

Another referee in the news is FIFA man Emilio Guruceta, fit again after a summer car crash. His first matches brought remarkable ovations from the crowds, but he was soon back in controversy, sending off Rayo Vallecano defender Anero in the 1-0 home defeat by Valencia.

Barcelona are third in the table, with 17 points, four behind Madrid, and shaken by rumours that Austrian World Cup star Hans Krankl is homesick and wants his contract cancelled at the end of the season. Nevertheless, Krankl remains the league's leading scorer with 13 goals.

At the other end of the table Celta and Huelva, both promoted last summer, look set to return to the second division at full speed. Celta have nine points, Huelva 10, with Santander, Salamanca and Rayo all on 12.

Salamanca are also having problems of a different sort. It was only just before Christmas that the angry players received back pay owed to them for two months.

SUPREME COUNCIL DROP BOMBSHELL

by Keir Radnedge

SPANISH football is riddled with confusion after a bombshell dropped by the Supreme Council for Sport.

The Council has told the Spanish football federation (the FEF) that no more foreign players should be allowed in and that all those now playing — *including* naturalised Argentinians and Uruguayans — must quit the league at the end of their present contracts.

It sounds drastic, and the decision stunned first division Hercules of Alicante who have no fewer than *seven* foreign-born players.

The Council's president, Benito Castejon, justified the move on the grounds of the "negative influences" produced by the scandals over suspicious documentation of foreign-born 'Spaniards', and by the way wholesale importation has stifled the development of the young players from whom Spain must find a respectable team for the 1982 World Cup Finals.

The Council laid down that from the start of next season the only new senior players allowed would be those already previously registered in Spain as junior, amateur and youth players.

The decision seemed to have scotched Barcelona's dream of replacing out-of-favour Johan Neeskens — whose contract expires at the season's end — with Borussia Moenchengladbach's Danish forward, Allan Simonsen.

But CFB vice-president Nicolas Casaus didn't agree.

"As we understand the matter, these are merely recommendations and not orders," he said. "So we will abide by the agreement adopted by the FEF in 1975, that a club can field only two foreigners not qualified to play for Spain, from next season.

FOREIGN-BORN PLAYERS IN THE FIRST DIVISION

Naturalised through Spanish parents, marriage, or residential qualification

Atletico Madrid: **Pereira, Leivinha, Ayala*, Gonzalez*, Ruben Cano*.** ***Barcelona:*** **Neeskens, Krankl, Zuviria*, Heredia*, Bio*.** ***Burgos:*** **Chazarreta, Adorno, Benegas*, Lopez*, Cioffi*.** ***Celta de Vigo:*** **Ademir, Fenoy.** ***Espanol:*** **Aifuch, Pavon, Longhi*, Osorio*.** ***Gijon:*** **Ferrero I, Ferrero II, Rezza*, Doria*.** ***Hercules:*** **Lattuada, Kustudic, Giuliano*, Saccardi*, Lasanta*, Charles*, Verde*.** ***Huelva:*** **Villazan, Esparrago II, Esparrago I*.** ***Las Palmas:*** **Brindisi, Morete, Carnevali*, Bertinat*, Maciel*.** ***Santander:*** **Damas, Jimenez*.** ***Rayo Vallecano:*** **Astegiano, Flores.** ***Real Madrid:*** **Stielike, Jensen, Roberto Martinez*, Wolff*, Guerini*.** ***Salamanca:*** **Chaparro Baez, D'Alessandro*, Cino*, Amarillo*, Castronovo*.** ***Sevilla:*** **Bertoni, Scotta, Gustavo*, Gerolami*, Murua*.** ***Valencia:*** **Bonhof, Felman, Kempes*, Cabral*, Diarte*.** ***Zaragoza:*** **Antich, Arrua*, Insfran*, Mendietta*.**

"That's no problem. Hans Krankl is one foreigners and I don't think we'll have any problem renewing Neeskens's contract if it is decided that he stays. Bio, Heredia and Zuviria are all officially Spanish and haven't been internationals in their countries of origin. Bio is married to a Spanish girl and Heredia has even played for Spain this season."

That was the defiant attitude too of Hercules president, Rico Perez.

"We don't understand this as an order, just a recommendation," he said. "We have no problems with our players. Lattuada is one foreigner, Kustudic the other. Giuliano hasn't been an international in Argentina and is Spanish through marriage.

"Saccardi is not an Argentine international and has been here the necessary years to become a Spanish resident. Moyano hasn't been an international in his country either and is Spanish by marriage. Charles played in France before joining us, but he's married to a Spanish girl too. Verde was an international in Paraguay, but he's fulfilled the necessary time of residency here.

"Anyway the contracts of Saccardi and Verde expire this season."

How convenient, that three of Hercules' stars should have married in Spain! What a coincidence!

But not all clubs are so determined to maintain a policy of studied indifference. Athletic Bilbao and Real Sociedad de San Sebastian, the two Basque clubs who fought doggedly against the foreign influx since the borders were reopened in 1973, were delighted.

And several of the smaller clubs welcomed the ruling because it would give them a better chance of matching the giants, once the top clubs have been shorn of their imports.

Not a few economists were delighted as well. Though the order would mean sharp inflation in domestic transfer and signing-on fees, the money would stay in Spain and nothing would be paid like the huge sums which have gone to the Cruyffs and Netzers.

The Spanish players' union were in a dilemma. On the one hand they were pleased for the improved prospects for young Spanish

Rayo Vallecano against Valencia in the Spanish League. Valencia won 2-0.

players, but on the other many foreign-born players count among their members, and they have a clear duty to protect their interests.

It's not clear where many of the established second-class foreigners could go once their contracts have expired.

Not that the Council is to blame for the basic problem. The real culprits are the clubs themselves, who shattered the spirit of the original law (if not the words) by stocking up with so many dubiously-qualified 'Spaniards' from abroad in addition to two declared foreigners.

In the past couple of years in *World Soccer* I've reported on several of the more notorious cases of suspicious documentation involving Oscar Valdes (Valencia) and Roberto Martinez (Real Madrid) and most recently on the remarkable attempt to fix up Albert Tarantini with a wife so he could play as a Spaniard despite coming fresh from Argentina's World Cup-winning team.

There are 110 foreigners in the top two divisions, with most clubs having five at least on their books. Now all they can do is wait and see whether FEF president Pablo Porta is prepared to stand up to the Supreme Council and fight at least to maintain his federation's 1975 norm.

If not the big clubs could bring to an abrupt end his dreams of staying at the helm for the 1982 World Cup.

DERBY manager Tommy Docherty paid a flying visit to Alicante to see Hercules' Yugoslav centre forward Miodrag Kustudic in action.

It was a case of a controversial manager watching a controversial player, for Kustudic's recent history has been littered with problems.

It was a bad omen when he was born on April Fool's Day in 1951 for, after signing a three-year contract with Hercules last July, the Yugoslav authorities refused to issue the necessary international transfer permit because he wasn't yet 28.

This is the age at which Slav players may emigrate and it was three months before Hercules, through the mediation of the shadowy figure of Victor Gartner, obtained Bedgrade's agreement to make an exception.

Kustudic had already found plenty of resentment in Spain over his bad foul on Spanish captin Pirri in the opening minutes of the Battle of Belgrade World Cup qualifier just over a year ago.

And though he scored in his first game — a pre-season friendly against his old club, Rijeka — and three times in his first two matches after the completion of his transfer, they proved his only goals in 1978 for Hercules, who hover just above the relegation zone.

Kustudic describes himself as "a born centre-forward, strong, good in the air and with a hard shot in both feet."

Those qualities brought three senior caps and five B appearances for Yugoslavia as well as 17 goals in the league in each of the past two seasons. Last season he was third in the overall scoring list, and added three more in helping Rijeka win the cup — their first-ever trophy.

Despite that he found settling in Spain awkward, which is why Docherty flew out to judge for himself whether Kustudic, rated at £150,000, might not be a greater success at the Baseball Ground than on the Costa del Sol.

More action from the Rayo Vallecano – Valencia match.

JOSE ANTONIO CAMACHO, Real Madrid full-back injured in training more than a year ago, has been offered a new contract by the club even though bad weather forced the cancellation of a friendly with Bulgaria's Levsky-Spartak which was to have seen his comeback.

LADISLAO KUBALA brought his total of new caps for the year to 18 when he brought on substitute Gordillo of Betis in the 1-0 defeat by Italy in Rome. Kubala chopped and changed his team extensively after the 5-0 European championship win over Cyprus (see European Review).

FOREST DRAW GRASSHOPPERS

ENGLISH euphoria at Nottingham Forest being drawn against Grasshoppers Zurich in the quarter finals of the European Cup should be tempered with caution.

Forest's record in the competition this season is impressive, with victories over Liverpool, the defending champions, and AEK Athens. But no game is easy at this stage and Grasshoppers eliminated Real Madrid of Spain.

The first leg will be at Forest, probably a slight disadvantage, which as Clough himself describes demands a special sort of urgency. Forest should go through, especially if their fragile attack can find the sort of form shown previously against AEK and with no truly outstanding sides left the European Cup could well stay in England for another year.

Scottish Champions **Rangers** meet **FC Cologne** of Germany, who are not having a particularly good run of late. Rangers can be an enigmatic side, and this promises to be an interesting tie.

None of the last eight have ever appeared in a European Cup Final, let alone won it, which is an indication of declining standards across Europe.

West Bromwich Albion, the team of the moment in England, face **Red Star Belgrade** in the UEFA Cup. Red Star put out Arsenal in the previous round and there will doubtless be consultation between Highbury and the Hawthorns.

The Yugoslavs are a tough, uncompromising team but Albion's current flair, personified by Cyrille Regis and Laurie Cunningham, and the defensive qualities of John Wile and Alastair Robertson, could be enough to send them through.

Manchester City, with Malcolm Allison reinstated at Maine Road, face **Borussia Monchengladbach,** another German side struggling to recapture their best. Borussia are not the side they were two years ago but then neither are City, a team with so much individual talent.

Honours

If Allison can spark some magic then City could salvage something from a disappointing season by taking European honours.

Ipswich, recovering from a poor start but now minus Brian Talbot, face Barcelona and will be seeking revenge for a UEFA Cup defeat last season. Barcelona then had Johan Cruyff to inspire them to overcome a 3-0 first leg deficit. Cruyff is no longer at Barcelona, of course, but Ipswich will need to be at their best.

EUROPEAN CUP

Wisla Krakow (Pol) v. Malmo
Cologne v. Rangers
Nottingham Forest v. Grasshoppers Zurich
Austria Wien v. Dinamo Dresden

CUP-WINNERS CUP

Magdeburg (EG) v. Banik Ostrava (Cz)
Inter Milan v. Beveren (Bel)
Fortuna Dusseldorf v. Servette (Swz)
Ipswich v. Barcelona

UEFA CUP

Hertha Berlin v. Dukla Prague
Honved v. MSV Duisburg (WG)
Red Star Belgrade v. West Brom
Manchester C. v. Borussia MG

First leg matches in all three competitions to be played on March 7, second leg on March 21.

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CLUB versus COUNTRY

an argument as old as football itself

EVER SINCE 1872 and 1895 when 11 men from Queen's Park turned out for Scotland in their two games those years against England in the internationals between soccer's oldest rivals, a secondary battle has raged.

It's a battle which has caught up players, managers, journalists and fans. And it all boils down to one question: should a national team be built around the best club side of the moment?

Whether it's a good idea in practise or not there isn't much doubting the theoretical points in favour. Players used to playing with each other in league games should provide a far better blend (and chance of winning) than 11 men thrown together from all four corners of a nation.

That was clearly in the minds of nine of the 16 managers at the World Cup. For they had included seven or more players from one club when they named their preliminary squads of 40 to go to Argentina. Alianza of Lima were the most decimated (or honoured) of clubs. Some 12 of their players were in Peru's 40, while Juventus provided 11 of Italy's *rosa*.

But though there appears no logical reason why a club base shouldn't guarantee success, the club-for-country scheme hasn't proved the ultimate solution.

You need only look at England's recent past to realise that.

After Ron Greenwood took over a sinking World Cup ship from Don Revie he faced two games in quick succession against Switzerland and then in the World Cup qualifiers a visit to Luxembourg.

Encouraged from all sides, Greenwood relied on six of the men who had taken Liverpool to the Champions' Cup a few months before. The obvious answer? No. England were held 0-0 at Wembley by Switzerland and beat Luxembourg only 2-0 when the needs of goal difference demanded an avalanche.

So what went wrong? Several things — and all characteristic of the hidden pitfalls which attend reliance on one club. We'll come across them again and again.

The first factor was that despite naming as many Liverpool men as he could, Greenwood was denied Republic of Ireland forward, Steve Heighway. (Kenny Dalglish had not, of course, been with Liverpool for their first Champions' Cup win.) And while Greenwood chase the backbone of the team, it was Heighway's pace and skill which provided much of the flesh and blood in attack.

The second factor was that no two managers will ever fully agree on the right tactics, or the best way to use individuals. So Liverpool manager, Bob Paisley, after England had struggled against Switzerland, criticised Greenwood for entrusting midfielders Ian Callaghan and Terry McDermott with different roles to those they took for their club.

Kenny Dalglish

So, two major drawbacks:

1) In many cases the national manager isn't able to select key club players because they are foreigners;

2) The national manager uses a different approach, style and tactics to the club manager. More often than not this can only confuse players and mean that far from playing their best in the national team they play badly.

Over the years countries round the world have taken different methods to draw on the resources of leading clubs. In some cases the scheming to build a national side round one club has been coldly, openly, deliberate. Examples include the great Hungarians and Russia of a few years back.

Secondly, some countries have been built around a club nucleus as a matter of sheer tactical necessity. Into this category fall the Belgian team of the early 1960s.

Finally, in a third category, we have the national teams where the dominance of one club has arisen without pre-planning, but simply because they happened to possess the outstanding players of the era and the national manager's hand was forced. Into this section fall the two teams who played out the 1974 World Cup Final — West Germany and Holland.

All this presupposes the clubs will be comparatively helpful, or at least, won't place too many difficulties in the way of the national team. But that hasn't always been the case.

To start with, let's consider the most deliberate examples of building round a club — Hungary and Russia.

The Hungarian story is the most famous and most remarkable. At the turn of the 1950s government officials decided that there was nothing like sporting success to take the population's mind off the problems of politics and poverty.

Consequently, Hungary's leading players were drafted into two main clubs, Red Banner and Honved, the army club, who already possessed a more than useful nucleus thanks to the great inside-left, Ferenc Puskas, and attacking right-half, Josef Bozsik.

Other players added included a brilliant outside-left in Zoltan Czibor, and a slim inside-right named Sandor Kocsis, who would become one of the greatest headers of a ball of all time. These two were forcibly moved over from Ferencvaros — and Czibor, in particular, resented the fact. Not that it showed in his play.

This was the team which, based in the main on Honved, went 29 games unbeaten between May, 1950, and July, 1954, and won the Olympic title on their way to thrashing England 6-3 at Wembley in 1953 — England's first home defeat by continentals — and 7-1 in Budapest.

Many people still regard this as the greatest team of all. But tragically they lost the one game they had to win, the 1954 World Cup Final, and in 1956 the team broke up during the Hungarian Revolution, with several players staying in the West.

But the Hungarians had proved, or so it seemed, that a club could provide an irresistible base for a national team. That's what the Russians believed and expected when, in 1975, Dynamo Kiev were designated to take over all the matches of the Soviet national team.

What the Russians failed to comprehend was that what had made the Hungarians great was their remarkable crop of great players. The Russians also failed catastrophically to understand that the Honved players had faced far fewer competitive pressures than Kiev.

Only in the last few months of the great era did the Champions' Cup involve Honved in home and away midweek ties. Kiev, on the other hand, were saddled with their dual personality in ridiculous circumstances.

Not only were their players, including such stars as left-winger, Oleg Blokhin, expected to play all the usual league and cup matches at home and internationals, they had a full programme in Europe — they were 1975 winners of the Cup-winners' Cup — and then had the Olympics to contend with as well!

It was impossible.

After failure in the Montreal Olympics of 1976 the Kiev bosses were ungratefully and ungraciously dismissed from their joint roles at the head of the national team, and a new independent manager in Nikita Simonian was appointed.

He was directed to revert to the old system of picking Russia's team from the best individuals available — no matter what their club. Yet the transition phase was disastrous as Russia failed to qualify for the 1978 World Cup.

● *Continued on page 43*

World Soccer Diary... World Soccer Diary...

Keegan wins Europe as Kempes is exclu

KEVIN KEEGAN'S election as European Footballer of the Year in the annual poll conducted by *France Football* was greeted as a foregone conclusion in Britain.

But instead of an award for 1978, there was more than a suspicion that Keegan's prize was recompense for not having won in 1977, being pipped by Borussia Moenchengladbach's Allan Simonsen.

After all, what did Keegan win in 1978? Not the West German league, not the cup, no European title and he didn't appear in the World Cup Finals.

Many people expected that Mario Kempes would sweep the award and there seems little doubt he would have done so had *France Football* not laid down in advance for their country-by-country voters that to maintain the European nature of the award Kempes could not qualify.

Despite the fact that he plays for Valencia, despite the fact that he has recently taken out Spanish citizenship, his international status is as an Argentine player and that was enough to bar him.

Alfredo di Stefano and Omar Sivori were two Argentines who have won the award in the past, but at the time both had played for their European countries of adoption, Spain and Italy.

Keegan during the past year has established himself as perhaps the No. 1 personality in the *Bundesliga* and his displays in the European Championship for England have demonstrated that he truly ranks among the outstanding players in Europe and the world.

But were his achievements during 1978 greater than those of the men who finished immediately behind him, Hans Krankl and Rob Rensenbrink? Keegan totalled 87 points, Krankl 81 and Rensenbrink only 50. Yet while Krankl's goals inspired the renaissance of Austrian football — one of Europe's old giants — Rensenbrink captained Anderlecht to the Cup-winners' Cup, scored twice in their final win over FK Austria, and then played through the World Cup Finals to come within an inch of winning it for Holland.

Rensenbrink was upset to miss out on the award two years ago when it went to Franz Beckenbauer. His claims this year were, if anything, even greater, but following Anderlecht's elimination from the Cup-winners' Cup and the fact that he is 31, it would seem his last chance has gone.

The 1978 votes: Kevin Keegan (Hamburg) 87 points. 2, Hans Krankl (Barcelona) 81. 3, Rob Rensenbrink (Anderlecht) 50. 4, Roberto Bettega (Juventus) 28. 5, Paolo Rossi (Vicenza) 23. 6, Ronnie Hellstroem (Kaiserslautern) 20. 7, Rudi Krol (Ajax), Rene Van der Kerkhof (PSV) 6. 9, Willy Van der Kerkhof (PSV), Antonio Cabrini (Juventus) 5. 11, Zdenek Nehoda (Dukla), Graeme Souness (Liverpool), Johan Cruyff (ex-Barcelona) 4. 14, Marian Masny (Slovan) 3. 15, Archie Gemmill (Nottingham Forest), Mario Tresor (Marseille), 2. 17, Francois Van der Elst (Anderlecht), Michel Platini (Nancy), Zbigniew Boniek (Widzew Lodz), Franco Causio (Juventus), Johan Neeskens (Barcelona), Joao Alves (Benefica), Hans Müller (Stuttgart), Didier Six (Lens), Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (Bayern), Rainer Bonhof (Valencia) 1.

Past winners: 1956 Stanley Matthews (Blackpool). 1957 Alfredo Di Stefano (Real Madrid). 1958 Raymond Kopa (Real Madrid). 1959 Di Stefano. 1960 Luis Suarez (Barcelona). 1961 Omar Sivori (Juventus). 1962 Josef Masopust (Dukla). 1963 Lev Yashin (Moscow Dynamo). 1964 Denis Law (Man. Utd.). 1965 Eusebio (Benfica). 1966 Bobby Charlton (Man. Utd.). 1967 Florian Albert (Ferencvaros). 1968 George Best (Man. Utd.). 1969 Gianni Rivera (Milan). 1970 Gerd Müller (Bayern). 1971 Johan Cruyff (Ajax). 1972 Franz Beckenbauer (Bayern). 1973 Cruyff (now Barcelona). 1974 Cruyff. 1975 Oleg Blokhin (Dynamo Kiev). 1976 Beckenbauer. 1977 Allan Simonsen (Borussia Mg.).

Footnote: Keegan's award is the first time that, at the end of a World Cup year, top prize has not gone to a star from the Finals.

WORLD SOCCER may have had an unwitting hand in Manchester United's recent unsuccessful £1 million negotiations for River Plate's Argentina World Cup stars Daniel Passarella and Ubaldo Fillol.

Earlier this season Fillol's name was tentatively linked with United at a time when the world's top goalkeeper was unhappy about the way talks were going on a new contract with River.

A couple of days later I attended United's League visit to Wolverhampton Wanderers and, after the Sunday newspapers had had their fill of manager Dave Sexton's match quotes, I asked if there were any truth in the rumours.

"None whatever," he told me, adding: "If I was going to be interested in any of their men it would be Passarella – what a tremendous player! But I can't believe there would be any chance of them letting him go."

I then told Sexton that River had just been eliminated from the South American Club Cup, that they had lost a lot of money on their European tour because of the air traffic dispute and that they might well be willing to realise one or two of their assets.

A few weeks later United made inquiries.

OBITUARY 1: Two terrible blows for Polish football as they strive to reorganise and rebuild. Both FA president, Eduard Sznajder, and FA secretary, Zygmunt Buhl, have been killed in car crashes within weeks of each other.

HOW complicated it is to organise a World Cup! The royal decree recently published in Spain laying down the composition of the domestic organising committee involves representatives from: the Football Federation, the Supreme Committee for Sport, the Spanish presidency, foreign affairs, finance, interior, public works and two planning, trade and tourism, economic, transport and communications, health and culture government departments; Radiotelevision Espanola, the telephone corporation, Iberia airlines, the national mint and (believe it or not) "six members . . . of acknowledged competence and experience in sport".

GIVEN THAT the Moscow Olympic football tournament will probably go ahead — however much of a ridiculous anachronism it may have become — it's interesting to look at the entries *when you consider how much fuss has been made by FIFA president, Joao Havelange, and the Third World countries about their World Cup representation.*

You would have thought that to emphasise their right to greater consideration at the highest level, the African and Asian countries would make a special effort to take advantage of the way FIFA are bending over backwards to encourage them in the Olympics (for example, the rigged draw and ban on World Cup players which restricts the Europeans).

Eligible

Instead, what do we find? That only 20 of 40 African nations eligible entered the Olympic qualifiers, and one of those, Tanzania, have pulled out before a ball is kicked; that only 20 out of 33 Asian associations have bothered to enter.

FIFA's Rene Courte said recently that "the FIFA amateur committee has not made an official statement about the fall in entries. However, during a recent conversation with Dr. Havelange, *some regret about this circumstance could not be overlooked*".

The italics are mine.

Some regret! Is that all?

If the Third World countries which are the last bastion of amateur football can't be bothered to compete in the Olympics, why should anyone go out of the way to lay down the red carpet for them in the World Cup itself?

ARTEMIO FRANCHI is already runaway favourite to become next president of FIFA, assuming Havelange goes through with his stated intention of stepping down in 1982.

The Italian is certainly a glutton for

World Soccer Diary... World Soccer Diary...

ean poll ded

Trevor Francis of Birmingham City was poised to become Britain's first £1 million footballer last month. Francis, the subject of countless transfer rumours, has been the target of a number of clubs in England, America and Italy. But until Birmingham finally decide to release him Francis must wait for what seems his inevitable departure from Birmingham. Nottingham Forest and Manchester United seem likely contenders for his services, while in Italy the wealthy Juventus have been keeping tabs with the latest situation. Meanwhile Francis, who has missed much of the current season, goes on helping Birmingham in their fight against relegation from the First Division of the Football League.

work! That's clear from his recent decision to return to the head of the FIGG, the Italian Football Federation, while holding on to the presidency of UEFA.

Born on January 8, 1922, in Florence, Franchi started his way up the political ladder after the war with five years as secretary of the Florence referees' association. Then came two years as secretary of Fiorentina before he returned to the corridors of power as chairman of the regional leagues, then of the semi-professsionals, finally becoming FIGC president in 1967.

Kevin Keegan — European Footballer of the Year.

He held this post until 1976, during which time he also made swift progress inside UEFA, whose labyrinth of committees he first entered in 1962. UEFA president since 1973, a FIFA vice-president and now once more head of the FIGC – gleaning all but a trickle of the 3,000-plus votes.

Franchi has the experience to take over in 1982, but a lot could happen in the next three years ...

OBITUARY 2: Luxembourg have few enough good footballers that they could afford the death from leukaemia of forward Gilbert Dussier. The 29-year-old, who won 39 caps and led the Grand Duchy's attack in the World Cup against England, had joined Belgium's Waterschei at the season's start after playing in France with Nancy and Lille. And it was against France, on October 7, that he played his last international. The death of Dussier, married with two children, comes just a year after the death of Luxembourg manager Gilbert Legrand.

Names in the news . . .

NAMES IN THE NEWS ... CESAR MENOTTI became an immediate target for the Uruguayan FA and Argentine club San Lorenzo after failing to reach agreement on a new contract with the World Cup winners ... UBALDO FILLOL, of River Plate, and Boca's Hugo Gatti, Argentina's best two goalkeepers, were both sent off in separate games on the same day ... FILLOL, ironically, had just been chosen Sportsman of the Year ... Australian team boss, RUDI GUTENDORF, has been laying down the law on how the Philips national league could be improved ... former Austrian manager, LEOPOLD STASNY, has turned down an offer from troubled SSW Innsbruck ... exiled Polish extremists shot at JOSEF VACENOVSKY, Lokeren's assistant coach, mistaking him for WLODEK LUBANSKI, whose flat he had recently moved into ... ERWIN KOSTEDDE, first coloured player to appear for West Germany, has joined Standard Liege for £15,000 ... CLAUDIO COUTINHO is now favourite to stay on as manager of Brazil ... JÜRGEN WÄHLING, former youth coach to Werder Bremen, is to take over Danish champions, Vejle ... GEERT MEIJER, Ajax forward, had a planned trial with Bristol City disrupted by the big freeze ... Marseille have sacked general manager, JOSIP SKOBLAR, and team coach, VLATKO MARKOVIC, after their constant squabbles, and appointed JULES ZVUNKA for a second spell ... ALBERT BATTEUX is to advise Nice, but he'd be much more welcome at his old club, Reims, facing relegation and on the verge of going bust ... Haiti star, FRANTZ MATHEIU has joined St. Pauli of Hamburg ... TIBOR NYILASI and ANDRAS TOROCSIK have had their one-year international bans lifted by new Hungarian FA president, Gyorgy Szepesi ... VICTOR SCERRI, former Sliema goalkeeper, is Malta's new manager ... veteran Norwegian star, HARALD BERG, retired after Bodo Glimt's Cup-winners' elimination by Inter-Milan ... JOSE PEYROTEO, one of Portugal's most famous old forwards, has died ... ANATOLI IVANOV, Torpedo Moscow coach, is spending three weeks studying training methods with Bundesliga leaders, Kaiserslautern ... ROBERTO RIVELINO'S world-wide ban has been lifted by FIFA after El-Helal finally came up with £100,000 towards the fee they owe Fluminense ... GERD MÜLLER says he will retire at the end of the season because he's fed up with all the trouble at Bayern and, more specifically, at the new contract offer he's been made ...

DERICK ALLSOP'S NOTEBOOK

SAD TO SEE RIVERA IN POOR FORM

ONE of the saddest, even most pathetic, sights in sport is that of a once great performer stubbornly playing on when the years have reduced him to a shadow.

Gianni Rivera, at 35, is regrettably just such a sight. Yesterday's Golden Boy of Italian football appears to be today's embarrassment.

Perhaps his power at Milan has affected his judgement. It certainly seems to have dissuaded others from confronting him with the truth.

Some of his colleagues were clearly exasperated by his limited contribution in the UEFA Cup tie against Manchester City. In the first leg, at San Siro, he was also jeered by disenchanted home supporters.

In the return leg he didn't have the energy or strength to stand up to City's midfield and the English side stormed to a decisive 3-0 lead by half-time.

Rivera didn't appear for the second-half, coach Nils Liedholm insisting: "The match was already lost so we decided it would be better to rest him for Sunday's important League match."

Frankly, Milan were a far more effective side without Rivera. Maldera took over both the captaincy and the vacant midfield role and gave Milan much needed drive.

With more controlled finishing the Italians would have had a couple of goals to emphasise the point still further.

Spanned

Rivera's marvellous career has spanned more than 850 games and nearly 20 years. It began with his home town club Alessandria, where he made his debut as a 15-year-old in 1959 — against Inter Milan.

As a 16-year-old, his fame already spreading, he was transferred to Milan and at 17 he made his debut for the club as a substitute against Catania at San Siro.

Under Rivera's guidance Milan became one of the powers of the Continent. They won the European Cup twice and the European Cup Winners Cup twice.

His control and vision made him one of the outstanding figures in international football. He played for Italy in three World Cup final series. All that, however, is in the past.

Asked if he was contemplating retirement he replied: "I'll just keep going as long as my legs carry me. I feel great at the moment — but maybe I could collapse at any time."

Quit before that happens, Gianni, and before you tinge the golden memories any more.

RAPIDLY escalating transfer prices are reducing American activity in the British market.

Wealthy New York Cosmos and Washington are still casting for the big fish. Cosmos wanted Asa Hartford from Manchester City, Washington were keen on Nottingham Forest's Peter Shilton. Both clubs have made bids for England's top export, Kevin Keegan.

But most of the North American clubs are in a different financial league. Dallas Tornado, for one, believe they can better spend their money elsewhere.

Francisco Marcos, Dallas' vice-president in charge of player personnel, said on a recent player-hunting mission to England: "We can't compete with transfer fees at this level.

"We are looking for good young players who will give us six or seven years rather than older players who can offer no more than one or two years. We are having to back our judgement with money we can afford.

"David McCreery, of instance, is for sale at Manchester United for £150,000, but for that sort of money you could buy any of Argentina's top players outside the World Cup squad.

"So that's why we are looking beyond Britain. We are looking in South America and other European countries — Portugal, Holland, Belgium and Sweden. There we believe we can get more for our money.

"More American clubs are thinking this way. Britain will still provide the base. Britain is respected, it is the Motherland of the game and we all accept that. But we have got to be more selective.

A £30,000 fee blocked any chance of an immediate deal for Leeds United's Peter Lorimer, but Marcos did complete one piece of business in England. He signed Manchester United's veteran goalkeeper Alex Stepney on a free transfer.

Stepney, 36, has a two-year contract. Marcos said: "Alex is not only a good goalkeeper but his experience will also be invaluable in helping to guide and bring on the younger players."

Marcos was immensely impressed with Bolton striker Frank Worthington on his trip and inquiries were made through the player's agent.

A spell in American football appeals to Worthington, who is currently the First Division's leading scorer. But his manager, Ian Greaves, insisted: "There is no way Frank is leaving Bolton for America or anywhere else — not for less than £500,000 anyway. That's the first thing.

"What is really concerning me now though is the way the Americans are coming over here trying to get our players.

"If the Americans are interested they should go through the proper channels. The way Frank has been approached is illegal. They have not come to the man they should see — the manager.

"We have got to put our foot down and let the Americans know this has got to stop. I, for one, have had enough of it.

"I am going to write to one American club letting them know we won't be having anymore to do with them."

The New York Cosmos.

Central America from ERIC WEIL

MEXICO would be happy to accept an invitation to participate in the South American (nations) Championship which would be extended to them from 1980 onwards if the South American Football Confederation (SSF) accepts a Brazilian plan to reorganise the championships. It would help Mexico improve their standard by regularly meeting stronger opposition than that on their own doorstep in the North, Central American and Caribbean Football Confederation (CONCACF).

Meanwhile Mexico, who were vice-champions of the first Junior World Cup held in Tunisia in 1977, qualified for this year's second edition by winning the 7th CONCACF championship held in Tegucigalpa (Honduras) with victories in their eight matches played. Mexico beat Canada 1-0 in a close final in which the only goal was scored by Mendiburu after seven minutes of extra time. Runners-up Canada also qualify for the Junior World Cup finals to be held in Japan later this year.

Honduras beat Costa Rica 2-1 in the third place playoff (also after extra time) between the two losing semi-finalists. Earlier the 13 participating countries had been divided into four groups from which the top two of each group entered semi-final groups. Honduras and Canada qualified from group A in which the Dominican Republic was eliminated; The United States and Trinidad qualified from group B in which Puerto Rico was eliminated; Mexico and El Salvador were the group C qualifiers, eliminating the Dutch West Indies and Grenada, while Costa Rica and Haiti qualified from group D, eliminating Bermuda. In the semi-finals, Mexico and Costa Rica won one group (eliminating El Salvador and Haiti), while Honduras and Canada won the other group (eliminating the United States and Trinidad Tobago).

● In Surinam, Robin Hood lost their season's unbeaten record in the last match by 3-2 versus Leo Victor who thus won the title for the first time in 15 years. Both teams qualify for the next CONCACF champions tournament.

Mexico win Junior Cup

League standings in Mexico

Group One	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Guadalajara	15	7	5	3	20	16	19
America	15	7	2	6	23	19	16
Monterrey	15	5	6	4	16	16	16
Atlante	15	4	5	6	24	28	13
Veracruz	15	2	3	10	15	31	5

Group Two	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Unam	15	8	4	3	29	21	20
Tampico	15	4	5	6	27	27	13
Leon	15	4	5	6	22	27	13
Atletico Postosino	15	5	3	7	16	26	13
Jalisco	15	4	4	7	21	28	12

Group Three	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cruz Azul	15	7	4	4	25	14	18
Toluca	15	7	4	4	29	18	18
Puebla	15	6	4	5	21	21	16
Union de Curtidores	15	5	4	6	20	19	14
U. de Guadalajara	15	4	3	8	23	27	11

Group Four	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
U. de Nuevo Leon	15	9	4	2	25	19	22
U. A. de Guadalajara	15	6	6	3	24	15	18
Zacatepec	15	5	7	3	24	20	17
Deportivo Naza	15	5	3	7	12	17	13
Atletico Español	15	4	3	8	18	25	11

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MY SON, who is shortly emigrating to South Africa, wishes to dispose of some of his old copies of 'World Soccer'. The copies are: 1968 May—December (incl). 1969 January—October (incl). December. 1970 January—May (incl), July—September (incl). November. Mr A. G. Manley, 23 Wells Road, Colchester, CO1 2YW, Essex.

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PLAYER PORTRAIT

by Keir Radnedge

BAYERN LOOK TO FILL THE GAPS LEFT BY THEIR AGEING STARS . . .

WHEN AN outstanding team start to lose momentum everyone is quick to look around at the calibre of the young reserves.

Will they be good enough to fill the gaps left by the stars?

Generally they are not. Creating a superteam is a matter of balance, but also a matter of coincidence, that certain players develop together at a certain time.

So it was with Bayern Munich in the early 1970s. Brought together in one club more by fortune than anything else were players whose names would become famous throughout the world.

Sepp Maier, Paul Breitner, Franz Beckenbauer, Hans-Georg Schwarzenbeck, Uli Hoeness, Gerd Müller . . . but where are they now? And where are Bayern? And as the gaps appear, how have the youngsters filled them?

The answer: Not well enough, except in one case.

The name is Karl-Heinz Rummenigge. A young winger who burst through at the end of Bayern's three-year reign as kings of Europe and who was one of West Germany's better players in the World Cup Finals last summer; a winger with speed and power; the one man who promises to keep Bayern's attack alive as Hoeness and Müller fade.

Vital springboard

Not that Rummenigge has found his apprenticeship to stardom easy. Of Bayern's three victorious Champions' Cup finals he appeared only in the last, in the 1-0 win over Saint-Etienne at Hampden in 1976. And he was so totally anonymous no one could have predicted that this game would be a vital springboard to an international career which has now brought him 20 senior appearances for West Germany in just over two years.

Yet his early months with Bayern had drained much of his confidence and it had taken a long time for Rummenigge to recover.

Born on September 25, 1955 he had made his name with regional league Borussia Lippstadt as an outstanding solo player, his strength being his close control at speed. Sometimes he overdid the dribbling, preferring to hold the ball and try to beat just one defender too many, and his transfer to Bayern hardly hit the headlines.

After all, they paid only £4,500 and that in the wake of the World Cup Final win when Bayern's Big Six had played such a vital part in bringing the world's premier prize back to the Federal Republic. Werner Kern, Bayern's assistant coach, had brought Rummenigge to Bayern, having been impressed by him while watching Lippstadt.

Atmosphere changed

With Lippstadt Rummenigge had played as a part-timer, now at Bayern he was full-time. The first week's training went reasonably. He thought he was settling in well enough. But so far he had been training with only the reserves.

When the World Cup stars made a belated return from their summer breaks, the atmosphere changed. Several thousand fans turned up for training, the competition became keener as the others tried that much harder to catch the eye of coach Udo Lattek.

Rummenigge began to be afraid he would be left behind. Shy and feeling out of place, he found the pressure so much in training games that he couldn't dribble the ball past even one defender at speed — his speciality — as before.

In many clubs he would have been finished before he had begun. Klaus Wunder, a top-rated forward who had joined Bayern at the same time, said: "I think you might have done better accepting that offer from Hamburg, rather than coming here."

But as it turned out it was Wunder who never settled at Bayern!

Fortunately for Rummenigge team spirit and morale at Bayern were then at their best, and the senior players — goalkeeper Maier in particular — went out of their way to make him feel part of the set-up.

The result was that Rummenigge began the season in the first team as the European and West German champions set out in defence of their hard-won titles. But that debut couldn't have been more traumatic. Bayern were away to Offenbach Kickers who, expecting a huge crowd, switched the match to Frankfurt's Waldstadion.

The fans came to see Bayern's World Cup heroes put on a super show, instead it was 1966 World Cup veteran Sigi Held who stole all the glory, and Offenbach won 6-0!

Was Rummenigge promoted too soon? He doesn't think so, for he said recently: "I've seen it too often here, that young players stay too long on the reserves' bench."

Slowly morale ebbed. Bayern were far from the present shambling state, with the players publicly insulting the trainer, but at the start of 1975 they were struggling in mid-table and coach Lattek was sacked. At the behest of Beckenbauer, the sharp, gnomic Dettmar Cramer was brought home from the United States.

It wasn't a change to suit Rummenigge. Lattek had quickly given him a chance, but Cramer was unimpressed.

"I just couldn't get on with the man at first," said Rummenigge. "I didn't get a game until March, yet I was sure I could do better than Conny Torstensson or Klaus Wunder, who were playing in my place on the right in attack."

Rummenigge had another disappointment in store. He had hoped to be in the team for the 1975 Champions' Cup Final against Leeds in Paris. Instead Cramer, despite Bayern's injury crisis, named him among the reserves.

"That was a blow, not playing against Leeds," said

Rummenigge beats Tardelli of Italy.

Rummenigge. "Games like that just don't come along every week!"

But Cramer knew what he was doing. He didn't underestimate Rummenigge; just didn't believe him yet ready for a permanent role in the big-time. Next season would be different.

Cramer began to call him back for special training. He would set up a series of markers for Rummenigge to slalom round with the ball at speed; he would send over a stream of corners to try to improve Rummenigge's heading; and when Cramer decided that Rummenigge had the strength to go further, he sent him into the gymnasium for weight training.

Rummenigge found a first team place waiting, too, for Hoeness was now slipping into that injury-bedevilled era which has yet to end. Now the new, stronger, faster, sharper Rummenigge made his mark. Soon he was playing for the West German B team against Austria and he crowned his first season as a regular with that Champions' Cup Final against Saint-Etienne.

Many people remained unconvinced. And Rummenigge's immediate call for national service looked like a new handicap. Instead he was lucky. While he was away for a month Bayern played only friendlies in the summer and he returned from army to football duty the more refreshed for a longer rest than his team-mates.

In October 1976 came his full international debut, in a 2-0 win over Wales in Cardiff. A year later came his first international goal, in the impressive 2-1 win over Italy in West Berlin, but inbetween he had discovered a rival to a place on the wing for his country: Rüdiger Abramczik.

The Schalke man was in outstanding form and had the advantage of a club partnership with the new West German centre-forward Klaus Fischer. The Press built up the Rummenigge-Abramczik rivalry into a feud.

"Who is this Rummenigge?" Abramczik was supposed to have asked one day, but when the words were blown up into a headline they were enough to put "Kalle" on his guard.

He'd slipped into the doldrums. But that was only temporary. As Abramczik's alleged question was retold to him, Rummenigge thought: "Right, now I'll show you!"

There was still more extra training and Rummenigge asked Cramer what more he could do to improve himself.

Situations

"When you're driving your car, or out for a walk," the coach told him, "try to take in everything going on around you, so that ultimately you become aware of much more without having to make the effort. You'll find that will help you become aware of situations and possibilities in a game."

Against Italy Rummenigge was superb, using his speed to devastating effect to rip huge gashes across the Italian defence, and his goal was a gem. He looked a certain starter for the World Cup until . . . a few weeks later, he lost his temper in a league derby against 1860 München, and was sent off.

"Everyone warned me," said Rummenigge, "you've just torn up your ticket for Argentina."

The DFB suspended him for eight weeks, but that made him all the more determined to stay fit and in form. He turned up for training two or three times a day, as well as on Sundays and when he returned to first team duty he found Bayern had a new trainer.

Dismissed from the Champions' Cup the previous spring, they had now been knocked out of the UEFA Cup by Eintracht Frankfurt though in the middle of the tie the Frankfurt coach, Gyula Lorant, joined Bayern in a swap for Cramer.

Lorant made Rummenigge sweat to stay at match fitness. But Rummenigge admitted: "I've never met a coach who can instil so much confidence in a player. Thanks to Lorant I've become still faster and stronger."

Lorant knew when he arrived that he faced a long, tough task. The question was whether he would be given the time needed to rebuild the ailing Bayern machine.

One of his first decisions was that the Bayern of the Future should function around Rummenigge. So, while everyone else was assigned a particular role for each game, Rummenigge was left free to move where and how the mood took him. It was a big responsibility for the 22-year-old and it took him time to adjust. But adjust he did, and the reward was a place in the World Cup squad.

The defending champions went to Argentina with high hopes, and returned almost in disgrace after the second round defeat by Austria. But Rummenigge was one of the few successes.

He was left out of the opening game against Poland, but scored two picture-book goals against Mexico, before dropping to match the poor form of his team-mates in the astonishing 0-0 draw with Tunisia.

Second round

"We underestimated them," he told me at the time. "This is a problem we run into from time to time. We knew we were the better team and expected it to be too easy — especially after the way we beat Mexico. But we're confident we can lift our game in time for the second round. We've a team who thrive when the going gets tough."

In the event Rummenigge's optimism was founded on sand. The Germans' World Cup was a stultifying defensive one. What might have happened if Rummenigge had been given his head in attack, instead of being held back in midfield, in sad contrast to his role with Bayern?

"Defensive? Yes of course we are defensive," countered Rummenigge, backing Helmut Schoen. "This is a World Cup and we don't want to give anyone any advantages."

It's a sad fact that as Rummenigge's career is blossoming, so his club and his country are facing difficult years. But Rummenigge will go on improving, and that must be a good sign.

The World Cup may have been a failure for West Germany, but for Rummenigge it was valuable experience.

"Before the World Cup my wife Martina asked me once: 'Why don't you score many goals?' I'd always thought of myself as good at dribbling, but too hasty in front of goal. Then, after getting those goals against Mexico, I realised: You *can* do it — and in the World Cup where it matters! It was like the first time I played really well against Berti Vogts in the league. I understood — Vogts is only a full back, no Superman."

Sepp Maier thinks Rummenigge has "grown up" thanks to the World Cup and Rummenigge himself, when warned that the pressures from outside the game could spoil his form, was conscious enough of the risk to reply: "I won't let that happen to me. In my years at Bayern I've seen and learned too much from great players such as Beckenbauer, Maier and Müller, to ever let that happen to me."

Juventus slip to fifth place

DROP Romeo Benetti and move Roberto Bettega into midfield — that was the suggestion of ex-Juventus boss Carlo Parola as the Italian champions' grip on their title slipped.

A 1-0 defeat by Roma, thanks to a 37th-minute goal from Agostino Di Bartolomei, pushed Juve back to fifth place, their lowest in eight years!

Giovanni Trapattoni's men claimed they were unlucky to have Bettega refused a penalty, and the pattern of the game was wrecked after the expulsions in the 67th minute of Di Bartolomei and Juve spearhead Pietro Paolo Virdis.

But more serious was the fact that leaders Milan were winning 3-1 away to Verona despite an early substitution forced by an injury to brilliant young sweeper Franco Baresi. Milan's only blunder came, astonishingly enough, from skipper Gianni Rivera, whose misplaced back pass let in substitute Arcadio Spinozzi for Verona's only goal!

Walter Novellion, Walter De Vecchi and Roberto Antonelli were Milan's scorers, but their goals, while providing two points, couldn't shake off the challenge of second-placed Perugia. They beat Caranzaro thanks to a goal from veteran ex-Fiorentina striker Walter Speggiorin.

With Milan on 19 points, Perugia on 18, Internazionale and Fiorentina on 15, and Juventus on 14, the champions looked out of the title race. But Milan have a history of slipping up when way ahead. In the mid-1960s they squandered a seven-point lead over Internazionale, and in the early 1970s Juventus pulled back a five-point leeway to snatch the title on the last day of the season.

But Juventus had hardly shown the sort of form to repeat such a recovery.

This was what made Parola's views all the more interesting. As Juve's centre half for 15 years in the late 1940s and early 1950s, and having twice been team coach, he is now permitted a better perspective on the team's problems from his post as technical observer — which means he spies on rival teams and possible purchases.

"We're not in a crisis — yet," he said, "but the situation is alarming. Being beaten in the first round of the Champions' Cup was the big blow, because that was our priority this season and going out the way we did shocked everyone."

Parola thought too that the efforts of the World Cup Finals took out a lot from the players, though he didn't agree with Fiat boss Gianni Agnelli that Juve's problem is that the team is too old.

"Who are these old players? Zoff, Morini, Furino, Boninsegna and Benetti. Five out of 11 — but that's the kind of balance you need. I've always believed in getting the most out of older players. Perhaps because I played on myself until I was 35."

Even so, Parola had to concede that the time might be fast approaching when Benetti might have to be pensioned off, and when it might be appropriate to ease Bettega back into midfield where his eye for an opening in the penalty box could still be of value.

Surprisingly Parola believed that Virdis could still succeed, though the ex-Cagliari centre forward has had a poor 18 months of it since he was persuaded, despite his own reluctance, to leave Sardinia.

And it's surely not a coincidence that several of Juve's players looked as if they had gained a breath of fresh air when lining up alongside Paolo Rossi in Italy's 1-0 win over Spain in Rome just before Christmas.

Despite starting the season late because of injury, Rossi is now second equal in the scoring charts, having hit seven goals, the same as Napoli's Beppe Savoldi. Lazio's Bruno Giordano — who made his Italy debut as a substitute against Spain — leads with nine.

Rossi's goals haven't done much to keep Vicenza out of trouble and, as I write, they are 11th, just three points above the relegation zone.

Bottom are Atalanta, with seven points, their hopes of a survival miracle ever more

Boninsegna argues with a referee.

ITALY
by Keir Radnedge

fragile since midfielder Salvadore Garritano suffered a broken leg; just above, on eight points, are Verona and Bologna.

And Bologna it was who became the fourth *Serie A* club to sack their manager when they dismissed Argentine coach Bruno Pesaola two days before Christmas. It was the third successive season Bologna have axed the manager in mid-term.

Marino Perani, outside right when Bologna won the championship in a dramatic play-off with Internazionale in 1964, has taken over. But his chances look slim. Bologna have been struggling for too many years now and though they have never been out of the first division, that release must be only a matter of time.

Bologna are two points adrift of Roma and Avellino on 10 points and while Roma's win over Juventus was praiseworthy enough it is Avellino who have been hogging the headlines, for the strangest reasons.

Promoted to *Serie A* for the first time only this season Avellino clearly have enough to cope with, without their players giving the most outrageous interviews. But this happened through the peculiar judgment of 22-year-old midfielder Maurizio Montesi, who gave an interview to a Trotskyite newspaper in which he insulted everyone involved in football, chairman, directors, journalists, even fellow players.

Insulted

He also insulted the fans, describing them with a four-letter word which, despite his panicked later denials, set the cat among the pigeons.

Montesi was seathing about Avellion and the local attitude to football. "The hospital is a slum," he was quoted as saying, "but the people don't mind that because they have a huge stadium which was built in 100 days."

That may be true, but all Montesi's social comment was overshadowed by his insults. Avellino promptly suspended him and reported the matter to the league, for them to take further action!

Meanwhile there's more official action due yet again to Napoli, where Lazio players Dario Pighin and Lionello Manfredonia were taken to hospital suffering from shock after being bombed by a firework as they warmed up for a league match in the notorious San Paolo stadium.

The kick-off was delayed half an hour and Lazio had to push forward two reserves before doing well to draw 1-1. But it's likely that the league's disciplinary chairman will award the match 2-0 to Lazio and possibly order yet another ban on the San Paolo.

Napoli and Lazio are next to each other in mid-table, with Paolo Carosi's revived Fiorentina one step up.

Yet it was in Florence that Juventus produced a glimmer of hope to signal to their fans that they aren't finished yet. After the two-week Christmas and New Year break Juve travelled south to win 1-0 thanks to a 59th-minute goal from Gaetano Scirea and a first half penalty save from Ezio Sella by 36-year-old Dino Zoff.

Zoff was heavily criticised for his World Cup form, but his display against Fiorentina seemed to justify Parola's comment that "Zoff can go on playing for another three years — easily."

Foreign players

(Part II)

IN THE May edition of World Soccer we published the first part of a list of all the foreign players who have appeared in *Calcio* since the second world war. That covered Albania to Rumania. But because of the pressure of space for the World Cup Part II (Spain and Yugoslavia) had to be held over until now.

With the borders likely to be reopened in time for next season there's just time to remind ourselves that since 1945 some 261 foreigners have played in Italy, coming from 26 countries. The main importers were Argentina, with 54 players, followed by Brazil 31, Sweden 30, Uruguay 22, Denmark 21, Hungary 20, etc.

Of those 261 a number have made a name for themselves as coaches, such as Juan Carlos Lorenzo, Bruno Pesaola, Beniamino Santos, Omar Sivori (Argentina); Ernst Ocwirk (Austria); Dino Sani (Brazil); Eddie Firmani (Britain); Cestmir Vycpalek (Czechoslovakia); Lucien Leduc (France); Noberto Hoffling, Gyorgy Sarosi (Hungary); Luiz Suarez (Spain); Nils Liedholm (Sweden); Ettore Puricelli, Juan Schiaffino (Uruguary); Horst Buhtz (W. Germany); Toma Kaloperovic (Yugoslavia).

*Players who subsequently played for Italy in internationals.

**Foreign players already in Italy in 1946.

SPAIN

Del Sol (Juventus 1962-68; then Roma) — Peiro (Torino 62-64; Inter 64-66; Roma 66-68) — Santisteban (Menezia 61-63) — Suarez (Inter 61-68; Sampdoria 68-69). — 4.

SWEDEN

Anderssen (Roma 50-51) — Anderssen (Udinese 61-64; Varose 64-65) — Aronsson (Vicenza 56-58) — Bengtsson (Torino 49-50) — Bergmark (Roma 62-63) — Borjesson (Palormo 61-63) — Eiderfell (Legnanon 51-54; Novara 54-56) — Ekner (Fiorentina 51-53; Spal 53-54) — Gaert (Sampdoria 50-51) — Gren (Milan 49-53; Fiorentina 53-55; Genoa 55-56) — Gustavsson (Atalanta 56-61) — Hamrin (Juventus 56-57; Padova 57-58; Fiorentina 58-67; Milan 67-69) — Hjalmarsson (Torino 49-52) — Jeppson (Atalanta 51-52; Napoli 52-56; Torino 56-57) — Lindskog (Udinese 56-58; Inter 58-61; Lecco 61-62) — Jonsson (Fiorentina 61; Roma 61-63; Mantova 63-65) — Lofgren (Lazio 51-55; Spal 55-56) — Liedholm (Milan 49-61) — Melberg (Genoa 50-51) — Nilsson (Genoa 50-51; Spal 55-56) — Liedholm (Milan 49-61) — Melberg (Genoa 50-51) — Nilsson (Genoa 50-51) — K. Nordahl (Atalanta 48-51) — B. Nordahl (Roma 50-51) — G. Nordahl (Milan 48-56; Roma 56-58) — Palmer (Legnano 51-54) — Palmer II (Juventus 58-59) — Rosen (Torino 50-51; Novara 51-53) — Sandell (Spal 56-58) — Selmonsson (Udinese 54-55; Lazio 55-58; Roma 58-61; Udinese 61-62) — Skoglund (Inter 50-60; Sampdoria 60-62; Palmero 62-63) — Sundqvist (Roma 50-53) — Tapper (Genoa 50-51). — 30.

SWITZERLAND

Allemann (Mantova 61-63) — Fuchs (Padova 48-52) — Vonlanthen (Inter 55-57; Alessandria 57-59). — 3.

TURKEY

Bartu (Fiorentina 61-62; Venezia 62-63; Fiorentina 63-64; Lazio 64-65) — A. E. Bulent (Spal 51-54) — E. Bulent (Palermo 51-52) — Lefter (Fiorentina 51-52) — Metin (Palermo 61-62) — Sukru (Palermo 50-51; Lazio 51-52; Palermo 52-53). — 6.

URUGUAY

**Alberti (Venezia 46-47) — Abbadjo (Genoa 57-60; Lecco 60-62) — **Andreolo (Napoli 46-47) — Cacciavillani (Pro Patria 55-58) — Cancela (Atalanta 56-57) — Candales (Napoli 47-48) — Cerilla (Napoli 47-48) — Demarco (Bologna 59-65) — Garcia (Bologna 49-55; Atalanta 55-56) — Ghiggia (Roma 53-62) — Gomez (Palermo 56-57) — Guaglianone (Lazio 60-61) — La Paz (Napoli 47-48) — Leopardi (Genoa 57-59) — Longo (Cagliari 64-66) — Moro (Napoli 56-57) — Pedemonte (Inter 46-47) — **Puricelli (Milan 46-47) — *Schiaffino (Milan 54-60; Roma 60-62) — Vidal (Fiorentina 53-55; Pro Patria 55-56) — Volpi (Inter 46-67) — Zapirain (Inter 46-48). — 22.

WEST GERMANY

Brülls (Modena 62-64) — Buhts (Torino 52-56) — Curzio (Triestina 55-56) — Geiger (Mantova 62-63) — Haller (Bologna 62-69; then Juventus) — Janda (Fiorentina 49-51; Novara 51-54) — Kölbl (Padova 61-62; Genoa 62-65) — Schnellinger (Mantova 63-64; Roma 64-66; Milan 66-70) — Schütz (Roma 63-64; Messina 64-65) — Spikofki (Catania 54-55) — Szymaniak (Catania 61-63; Inter 63-64; Varese 64-65) — Waldner (Spal 61-63). — 12.

YUGOSLAVIA

Arangelovic (Padova 48-49; Roma 49-50; Novara 50-51) — Boskov (Sampdoria 61-62) — Goleb (Venezia 49-50) — Kaloperovic (Padova 61-62) — Kostic (Vicenza 61-62) — Manola (Lazio 46-47) — Nicolic (Venezia 49-50) — Veselinovic (Sampdoria 61-62) — Vukas (Bologna 57-59). — 9.

SOUTH AFRICA

by Winsor Dobbin

GOALKEEPER Gary Bailey's success with Manchester United has provided another link in English soccer's strong connection with the game in South Africa.

Tall and blond, Bailey took his chance in both of his large and capable hands and is now firmly ensconsed as United's first choice goalkeeper.

But Bailey, who made a brilliant debut against Ipswich in November, is just one of a number of young South Africans hoping to breakthrough to the big-time.

The 20-year-old son of former Ipswich goalkeeper Roy Bailey — now coaching and doing television commentaries in South Africa — Gary grew up in Cape Town and Johannesburg and spent three successful years with the First Division club Wits University before deciding to chance his arm in England.

His rise was meteoric. Within a season he progressed from B team to First Division football and his early senior performances were enough to convince manager Dave Sexton to abandon plans to sign Coventry City's Scottish international Jim Blyth.

Sexton also thought enough of Bailey to persevere with him after the youngster had conceded five goals against a rampant West Bromwich over the New Year holiday period.

Of course, Bailey is not the first South African to have made an impact on English soccer.

After the Second World War a number of Springboks like Stuart Leary, Bill Perry, Syd O'Linn and Eddie Firmani — now manager of New York Cosmos — were popular campaigners.

Dollars

Others, like Billy Arnison of Glasgow Rangers, played in Scotland.

Leeds United's black winger, Albert Johanneson, now sadly living in poverty in Yorkshire, played at Wembley in 1965. Unhappily, he found the occasion too much and made very little impact as Leeds lost 2-1 to Liverpool after extra time.

Colin Viljoen — ultimately capped for England — and Derek Smethurst carried on the tradition, but by the mid-seventies South Africa's isolation from international soccer had taken its toll and the few outstanding players that were produced in South Africa elected to rake in the dollars in the United States, rather than battle for recognition in Britain.

Steve Wegerle of Tampa Bay Rowdies and Ace Ntsoelengoe of Minnesota Kicks are prime examples of the quality of player that was snapped up by American clubs more alert than their English counterparts.

But now, although more than a dozen South Africans will be in action in the NASL next season, young South African players are showing renewed interest in playing in England.

Apart from Bailey, it is the lanky Brian Stein of Luton who has made the biggest impact.

Poor gates for Dukla

In the first half of the season in Czechoslovakia, Dukla Prague proved to be the most popular side, averaging almost 7,000 cash customers per game . . . away from home. But in Prague their average is only just over 3,000 for home matches.

By contrast champions Brno pulled in an average of more than 11,000 at home but only 4,000 away. AC Sparta are still the best-loved team in Prague despite having a poor season and averaged home crowds of almost 9,000 (in second place), while surprisingly, their two neighbours, Bohemians (almost 7,500) and Slavia not quite 7,000 went against tradition.

On a single match basis, only Dukla Banska Bystrica (once) and Sparta (once) topped 15,000 for a game, while at the other end of the scale four matches attracted less than 1,000 spectators with VSS Kosice suffering twice.

BAILEY PAVES THE WAY FOR MANY OTHERS

Born in Johannesburg, the coloured forward is one of the leading scorers in the Second Division. Last season Stein scored just three goals in 18 appearances. This season he had been hitting the back of the net with almost monotinous regularity. Stein got his break the hard way, playing Athenian League soccer for Edgware Town until spotted by Luton.

Andy Parkinson, a striker who played for two Johannesburg clubs — Dynamos and Highlands Park — is in the first team squad of Second Division championship chasers Newcastle United.

Parkinson made two appearances last season, but this year his chances have been restricted by his own form and the signing of Peter Withe, who himself formerly played in South Africa for the Pretoria club Arcadia.

Another player with the club in the North-East is Middlesbrough's promising young midfielder Craig Johnston. But despite being born in Johannesburg, Johnstone was raised in Australia and regards himself as an Australian.

Mitch D'Avray is another South African striker on the verge of big things.

D'Avray, 16, is the leading goalscorer for Ipswich's junior team and is pressing strongly for a regular place in the reserves.

Like Colin Viljoen, who is now with Manchester City and a naturalised Briton, D'Avray started his career with Johannesburg Rangers.

Yet andother former Rangers player, goalkeeper Victor Noguiera, is with Parkinson at Newcastle. He has attracted interest from a couple of American clubs.

Striker Rodney Anley, who played for Suburbs United in Durban last season is currently on a three month trial with Second Division Burnley.

And Bailey, who now knows all about life at the top, is convinced that there are a number of players still playing in South Africa, talented enough to make the grade in England.

Certainly players like Bailey and Stein have gone a long way toward proving that South Africa is not simply a comfortable grazing ground for old British professionals.

Another function South African soccer fulfills is that of being a good training ground for managers. Colin Addison, currently having so much success as assistant manager at West Bromwich Albion, spent a season with Durban City, while Bill Williams, now coach of Sacramento Gold in California, spent two years in charge of the Natal club.

Bradford City manager George Mulhall started his coaching career while with Cape Town City, while Bobby Houghton, manager of European Cup quarter-finalists Malmoe and Roy Hodgson, boss of another top Swedish club Halmstad, both started coaching while with the now-defunct Berea Park club in Pretoria.

South Africa's links with English soccer do not end there. As well as the numerous former British professionals playing for South African clubs, a number of Englishmen have also managed teams.

And, as is so often the case, both of the top managers are former West Ham players.

England international Johnny 'Budgie' Byrne managed league champions Lusitano, while Eddie Lewis is in charge of Cup winners Wits University, and was the man who started Gary Bailey on the road to stardom.

WHERE ARE THE WING HALVES?

by BRIAN GLANVILLE

THERE has been much talk over the last decade or so of the harm Alf Ramsey's methods did to wingers in this country, but none that I can remember over the harm he did to wing-halves. This may partly be because no one talks about wing-halves any more, even though they emphatically exist. We hear merely about midfield players, though as I have had occasion to remark in the past the Brazilians, who virtually invented such creatures, have always been most careful to distinguish between wing-halves and inside-forwards. From the moment, indeed, that Zito and Didi burst upon the football world.

It was at half-time in last November's England v. Czechoslovakia game, a moment of deep embarrassment for English spectators, that I became aware of just how much harm Ramsey's regime had done in this respect. I was lamenting the absence of a recognised half-back, to take some kind of command on the midfield which the Czechs were running with such ease and mastery. "In other words," said a disdainful younger colleague, "somebody who'll kick".

I denied it at once, but the point was pungently, if not pertinently, made. A wing-half meant a ball winner which in turn meant a kicker. Ramsey, it will be remembered, had a penchant for hard men in midfield. First and most famous, there was Nobby Stiles, whose awful foul on the Frenchman, Jacky Simon, during the 1966 World Cup, brought demands by Denis Follows that he be omitted from the team, and a riposte by Ramsey that if Stiles went, so did he. Stiles stayed.

Later, he would become, internationally, a byword for what one might politely term combative methods. He was incessantly jeered by the Roman crowd in June, 1968, on the occasion of England's third-place European Nations Cup victory against Russia — though Stiles had never laid a boot on an Italian. He was excoriated in the official programme before the notorious game (game?) between Manchester United and Estudiantes in the Bombanera, Boca Juniors' Stadium, on the occasion of the world club championship. Stiles did no one any harm that night, but he was spitefully back-headed in the face, and his eye cut, by the notorious Argentinian doctor-cum-left-half, Bilardo.

Then there was Norman Hunter, whose foul on Yugoslavia's Osim at Florence in that same Nations Cup tournament of 1968 put him off the field, out of the game for months (though it's only fair to say he had a prior injury) and sent shudders through me, even in the Press Box.

After that, Peter Storey, another half-back who, to employ another euphemism, was exceedingly robust. Storey and Hunter were both in the cravenly selected England team which played a disgracefully negative 0-0 draw with West Germany in Berlin in 1972, having lost the first leg of their Nations Cup quarter-final 3-1 at Wembley; an evening when Ramsey picked no half-back at all, and allowed Gunter Netzer to run riot. After the Berlin affair, Netzer remarked, with justifiable bitterness: "The whole England team has autographed my leg."

Unquestionably there are some teams, very successful ones at that, whose midfield consists entirely of natural inside-forwards, with not a natural wing-half in sight. Nottingham Forest is one of these. Martin O'Neill, John McGovern, Ian Bowyer, Archie Gemmill all seem to me inside-forwards at heart, though Bowyer, in fact, began as a very promising left-winger with Manchester City, and last season became, not without success, a makeshift full-back.

The midfield player *per se*, capable of fulfilling all the tasks of wing-half and inside-forward, tends to be something of a mirage, though I suppose Johan Neeskens has got as near to it as anybody ever will. Danny Blanchflower, himself a wing-half of great quality, a creator rather than a tackler, an inspiration to his teams, says he believes in different functions on the field, because "people are different". So they are, and I think England run a great risk with their pseudo 4-4-2 formation, so long as both midfield players continue to be inside-forwards.

I confess that I should be much happier to see England, in the New Year, abandon such pretentions and revert to a 4-3-3-. Even if all three men in the midfield were inside-forwards — Brooking, Currie and Wilkins, say — there is at least greater safety in numbers.

Mention of Wilkins bring me naturally to the plight and tribulations of the team he captains, Chelsea. Injuries have not helped them, yet at no time this season have I subscribed to the belief that, in this mediocre First Division, they simply haven't the players to survive. The truth is that these players became demoralised, and Chelsea's silly, mindless flirtation with Miljan Miljanic helped not at all. I like Miljanic, one of the most interesting coaches in the game, and I am not prepared to come down on either side of the debate over whether he ever seriously meant to join Arsenal, a few years ago, or Chelsea.

The point is that Chelsea's attempt to get him, in whatever capacity, was one which could succeed only if he were appointed *immediately*, in the hope that his presence would give the team new faith. To fritter more than a month away was inept, inexcusable and self-destructive. It whittled away the already waning prestige of poor Ken Shellito (later replaced by Danny Blanchflower), it guaranteed that the team would continue to lose morale; and matches. Sad, indeed.

Alan Mullery, two years earlier in Mexico, had showed himself a wing-half of much greater all-round ability than any of these. One may concede that Stiles was a players' player, a nagging inspiration to his fellow defenders, but his passing was parlous, his ball control indifferent. You could not imagine him initiating then finishing the wonderful goal which Mullery scored against West Germany in the quarter-finals at Leon, setting up the overlap then getting, as they tend to say now, "on the end of it", to shoot past Maier on the near post.

Mullery was never a classical footballer, he was always a forceful, physical one, but he wasn't merely destructive, and the admirable game he played against Pele in that same World Cup at Guadalajara showed, as he had shown the year before in Rio, that he could defend splendidly without resort to unfair means and methods.

Since then, wing-halves of true quality — English wing-halves, at least — have been sadly few. Martin Dobson looked as if he would be one on the England tour of 1974, when he played so well in Leipzig, Sofia and Belgrade, but he did not find favour with Don Revie, who took over in the autumn, he had a difficult period of readjustment when Burnley sold him to Everton, and he has never since quite attained the consistency to force himself back into the international team. This despite admirable technique and versatility, the capacity of the best "W" formation school wing-halves not only to win tackles but to drive forward into attack.

John Mortimer, of Aston Villa, a Liverpudlian who came to Villa Park from Coventry, has played for England B, won the approval of Ron Greenwood, and is perhaps nearest to filling the position in the full national team. Unlike Ray Kennedy, who comes from the North East but actually plays for Liverpool, and has done well in England's midfield, Mortimer has a dynamic change of pace. Here again, consistency has somewhat been lacking. If he can find it, then it would be well worth giving him a cap.

Among the younger players, Steve Williams, of Southampton and the Under-21 England team, seems to me an excellent prospect, an attacking wing-half of great energy, pace and skill. A wing-half, that is to say, rather than a natural inside-forward, like his friend, little Gary Owen — whose folly in Liege alas got him banned from no fewer than five European games. Owen, too, has energy and pace, but his skills, his perception in passing, seem to me classically those of an inside-forward.

SWITZERLAND
by Arthur Rotmil

Two division system to be ratified by league clubs

THE SWISS LEAGUE clubs have again changed their minds about the championship formula which suits them best and are apparently ready to introduce two Divisions of 16 clubs each.

These proposals will have to be ratified at the general meeting of the League clubs in March, but it looks as if any other solution has been abandoned and certainly the present method will no longer be used. It will be remembered, that the Swiss have devised a unique system of staging the championship.

The twelve clubs in the First Division play each other on a home-and-away basis, then take *half* the points total with them to the next pool. The top six clubs then fight each other home and away for the title — the last six, also separately, against relegation. The new structure will give the clubs 30 matches a season but Switzerland should at least return to a more sane method of deciding the honours.

It is also said that this will help the national team because more dates should become available, but experts doubt whether this is going to bring any improvement. 16 teams in one League means that a number of weaker sides will dilute the already thin elite, and hardly extend the top teams.

The players, too, will not get the opportunity of having to compete all-out every match, which is the case in the smaller Divisions; for these reasons Austria and Scotland, for example, have created their ten-team "Super Leagues".

But the Swiss do not see the playing of four games between the same opponents, as in those two countries, as a satisfactory solution in a full season. The Second Division here suffers terribly from poor attendances. An average gate of 1,187 per match is the lowest ever and this state of affairs cannot continue much longer.

It is interesting to note that the Second Division in ice hockey currently draws nearly double the crowds here than football, although the standard of play, relatively of course, is not higher than in soccer.

The championship rests at the moment for its customary winter break, but all clubs have already resumed with training sessions in January. Ten First Division clubs have taken their squads to warmer climates. At the half way stage FC Zurich led the table from St. Gallen and Servette. At the bottom Nordstern, Chiasso and Sion were in danger of having to dispute the "relegation" pool.

FC Zurich opened a training camp in Yugoslavia at Cattoro for a month during which time they will play five games. Young Boys and Nordstern are also in Yugoslavia; St. Gallen have journeyed to Israel, Servette to Algeria for two to three matches; Basel and Neuchatel Xamax are touring the Caribbean Islands; Chenois are visiting France; Chiasso are in Spain and Grasshoppers will play in Kuwait, Dubai and Bahrein.

The biggest problems face Grasshoppers and Servette who have reached the quarter-finals of the European tournaments and will be lacking serious match practice when the first leg ties are staged early in March. The "Hoppers" will take part in two indoor tournaments in Frankfurt and Berlin before their journey to the Middle East in February. Servette intend to play four games on domestic grounds before venturing to Algeria.

The national side will after all be given the opportunity of a get together in February with two matches planned in France against First Division sides Bordeaux (20.2) and Nice (22.2). Tough matches in the European Championship await the Swiss this year: on March 28 against Holland (a); May 5 v. East Germany (h); then on May 22 v. Iceland (h); June 9 v. Iceland (a); September 12 v. Poland (h) and October 13 v. East Germany (a).

It has now been confirmed that the tie v. East Germany will be staged in St. Gallen's Espenmoos stadium. The FC St. Gallen is the oldest club in Switzerland and shortly due to celebrate 100 years of existence, so this is a fine gesture by the SFV in recognition of their pioneering work. It will be the third international there, after the games in 1912 v. Germany and 1921 v. Austria. The small ground is to be enlarged to hold 15,000 spectators, including a new covered terrace to take 6,000.

In the SFV-Cup the two major surprises concerned the top Zurich clubs FCZ and Grasshoppers. Both were eliminated — Zurich lost at home to Basel 1-3 and the champions by the same score at St. Gallen. The draw for the quarter-finals produced these pairings: Basel v. Neuchatel Xamax; Nordstern v. Servette; Young Boys v. St. Gallen and Chenois, or Winterthur v. Lausanne.

The ties will be played on March 20, except for Servette's game, which is scheduled for the 14th to allow for Servette's Cup Winners Cup match on the 21st.

A remarkable opportunity has been dangled before the coach Erich Vogel, who was invited by West Germany's leading club Eintracht Frankfurt for talks with a view to taking over. It would be a great boost to the Swiss managerial staff if one of their number could land such a prestigious, as well as lucrative job. Vogel has been coach to Neuchatel since April 1978. He holds a diploma of the Sports High School in Cologne and is therefore eligible to manage a *Bundesliga* club.

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TEAM WORK WAS THE KEY

A FEW weeks before the World Cup Finals, as *World Soccer* readers will have seen, I had a long talk with Holland's captain, Rudi Krol (writes KEIR RADNEDGE).

How, I asked him, were Holland going to make up for the absence in Argentina of Johan Cruyff?

"Perhaps," said Krol, a 29-year-old veteran of 51 internationals (now the total is 61), "we will have to find a new tactic, something to surprise the teams we play."

I asked him if that meant the Dutch had something new to take soccer beyond the total football revolution masterminded by Holland and West Germany in the early 1970s and which reached its ultimate expression in the Dutch performance of 1974, when they finished runners-up?

But Krol denied it and now, with the perspective of eight months (so long, already!) we know how right he was to say: "There will be nothing new. Everyone will play something similar to 4-3-3 or 4-4-2".

Everyone did.

Each World Cup FIFA commission senior coaches to put together a technical report on progress in tactics and technique. This time, even though that commission included the likes of Miljan Miljanic and Rinus Michels, there wasn't a lot new even they could tell us about tactics.

Perhaps the level of teamwork during the tournament reached a new peak. But looking back I'm not sure if that is anything to applaud; perhaps it was that which cost the World Cup the presence of one outstanding individual.

Complaint

This was, of course, the biggest complaint among journalists, managers and even players. That there was no Cruyff, Beckenbauer, Bobby Charlton, Eusebio or Pele on whom the focus of the tournament could concentrate. There was much to admire in the long-range shooting of Holland, in the 100mph whirlwind of Argentina, in the defensive fluidity of Italy . . . but there was no individual to take the tournament by the scruff of the neck.

So how has the World Cup developed tactically over the years?

In 1930, in 1934 and to a large extent in 1938, the tournament was hardly about tactics at all, it was all about individuals and how they might manage to combine on the day to produce a winning team. In 1950 the World Cup was still an occasion for individuals — for the Brazilian inside-forwards Jair, Ademir and Zizinho, for the Uruguayans Obdulio Varela, Juan Schiaffino and Alcides Ghiggia.

But by 1954 the wheel had started to turn. Hungary had the individuals and the revolutionary tactic of the withdrawn centre-forward in Nandor Hidgkuti. But

Franz Beckenbauer — missed in Argentina.

West Germany had the teamwork and the tactics and in the final their preparation was the key to their comeback from 2-0 down inside the first ten minutes to win the World Cup.

Very much the same thing would happen in 1974. This time after Brazil in 1958, 1962 and 1970 had brilliantly reasserted the cult of the individual ahead of their tactical novelty, 4-2-4.

But as even the now retired West German manager, Helmut Schoen, admits, the best West German team was that of 1972, the team who won the European Championship. This was the team who, with Holland and their leading club side, Ajax, first led us all to coin the phrase total football.

Some 25 years ago Willy Meisl, in his book *Soccer Revolution,* forecast that the ultimate in football would be The Whirl, in which players would interchange positions at will, and be adept at filling any role on the pitch.

To my mind the best expression of that was the display of Ajax in the first 25 minutes of their 1973 Champions' Cup win over Juventus. Then, as in the 1974 World Cup Final, they became bored with their own brilliance, were mesmerised into complacency, and against West Germany in Munich paid a heavy price.

And now where are we? No further. Why?

The reason is simple. All the tactical improvements in football have required great footballers to demonstrate them. And this 1978 World Cup has been lacking in great footballers. I think we may say there have been more outstanding team performances than before; perhaps the general standard has been higher; but there was nothing new.

When Holland set out there were rumours that a tactic nicknamed The Fog, involving five men in midfield, would become the rage. But not only was this nothing really new — teams have long since been trying to swamp each other in midfield — it was an idea which, left the Dutch dangerously exposed at the back.

And really it was little more than an attempt by manager, Ernst Happel, to find a workable, second-class substitute for the brilliance of one man — Johan Cruyff.

Italy were better organised, though on more traditional lines. In their brilliantly tidy sweeper, Gaetano Scirea, of Juventus, they possessed the most unsung player of the tournament. But their scheme of play remained based on the old 1-3-3-3 of *Catenaccio.*

And as for the West Germans, their sad lack of any creative footballers to even live in the shadows of Beckenbauer, Netzer, Overath and Gerd Müller condemned them to the stereotyped caution no-one could admire.

Once Brazil were the pacesetters with 4-2-4. But in Argentina Brazil, a disappointing mixture of unsettled individuals and uncontrolled extroverts, were unable to pull together to show us anything different. Manager Claudio Coutinho wanted to add European speed and strength in the tackle and this only confounded the natural skills for which the Brazilians earned their reputation.

Argentina certainly had organisation, and Austria, too. Even Iran and Tunisia at times looked as if their backroom boys had planned more seriously for the big occasion than such traditional giants as Hungary and Scotland.

But it's easy to go on picking holes. And that's hardly constructive. Total football was in many ways the apotheosis of the game; the ultimate. Is it right to expect any more, to expect anything new just four years later?

I believe not. I believe the 1978 World Cup had to be a tournament of consolidation, a tournament in which the world's footballers showed that the lessons of four years ago were being digested.

It would be an unhappy country which produced a revolution every four years and neither can football afford to have its standards and ideals continually overthrown. That is why, though the 1978 finals may not have shown anything new, they should not be held in contempt because of that.

Soccer revolutions must be rare or else they will fail in their impact. The 4-3-3 and 4-4-2 schemes of play (4-4-2 began, incidentally, with England in 1966) which were demonstrated so subtly by teams such as Holland, Brazil, Italy and Austria should not be ridiculed as out of date.

This is the framework in which soccer has to develop. It is the framework from which Mario Kempes emerged with such promise, the framework around which the total football image is being consolidated. And if individual talents are being sunk in the interests of the team, then that in itself is an underlying switch in emphasis which should not be overlooked.

WORLD CUP HANGOVER REMAINS . . .

Torocsik of Ujpest Dozsa.

HUNGARY

by Leslie Vernon

A TEDIOUS World Cup hangover dominated 'the first half' of the Hungarian League season. As though everyone connected with football had climbed a mountain and then had fallen off it, nobody was overkeen to embark on the same journey again.

But while this attitude was understandable, life had to go on, new targets had to be chased, and not least, the public had to be entertained. Unfortunately, this aim wasn't achieved, as most league games were dull, mediocre affairs — no wonder that attendance figures plummeted during the later stages of the campaign.

It is also true that in Hungary, the results of the national team have a very strong influence on not only league gates, but also on the entire scene. That's why "pessimism" was the keynote to the autumn half, with only perhaps Honved's good run in the UEFA-Cup as a redeeming feature.

I do not expect a radical change during the spring, but afterwards, the pendulum should swing again, not merely because that is the nature of life, but also because of the changes expected from the new 'regime' at the FA under Gyorgy Szepesi.

And despite the disastrous results, I do not believe that Hungarian football is justly ranked 23rd (!) on the European list by the illustrious *France Football*. This insult puts them below the likes of Denmark and Wales — a slight exaggeration.

Honours

Still, purely domestically speaking, the 'headlines' were — Honved are putting in a strong bid for the Championship, Ferencvaros are back in the running for honours, Vasas and MTK-VM are struggling against relegation! The last round was played-off on December 21 on snow-covered pitches, and the Honved players couldn't keep their feet at Pecs, where Nagy scored for them in the first-half. Dardai equalised later, and the provincials were well on top in the second period, but their forward line lacked penetration.

Dozsa's disaster struck in the penultimate round, when they were beaten 1-0 by lowly MAV Elore. In their last match, they said goodbye to their 2,000 (!) crowd with the usual competent home display, disposing of Zalaegerszeg 3-1 (Fekete 2, Torocsik). Ferencvaros won their last two games — Tatabanya 4-1 at home (10,000 — the best supported club in the country) and 2-1 away to Csepel.

Here are the half-time "reports" on the leading teams.

Honved. (26 points). Lajos Tichy has managed to blend his younger players into the side, and despite numerous injuries, they were the team of the season. Beating Ajax 4-1 in the UEFA-Cup was merely the icing on the cake, as the league title remains the number one target. Tichy says: "Despite my own playing background, I am not looking for sheer class, ball-playing ability alone. In modern football, these assets are useful, but in themselves, do not guarantee results. We must be combative, hard-working, physically fit. I was specially pleased with Gujdar, Kocsis, Pinter, Pal and Weimper, but our youngsters also did well when drafted in for the injured players."

Fortunes

Ferencvaros. (25 points). A great improvement in the fortunes of the popular green-and-whites under new "broom" Zoltan Friedmanszky. Winning the FA Cup in August put them into Europe, where they narrowly lost to Magdeburg — no shame! In the league, they are steadily tracking the leaders, and although the management modestly talk about 'finishing in the top six', their fans nourish loftier ambitions. Friedmanszky: "I am very pleased with our first-half performance. We did well in the "derby" games, we remained unbeaten in eight matches at the start, but we also dropped "silly" points to Dunaujvaros, Bekescsaba and Haladas. Balint was once again our best player, he has really come back to peak form after being "written-off" by a great number of "experts". Tepszics, Szokolai, Martos were other successes, but Ebedli was very disappointing."

Ujpest Dozsa. (24 points). 1977 autumn figures: P 17 W 9 D 6 L 2. Goals 42-23 points 24. 1978 figures: P 17 W 9 D 6 L 2. Goals 43-22 24 points! A remarkably similar "form-line" for the champions, which might suggest that they have an excellent chance of repeating last season's triumph. But this time, 35 of those 43 goals were scored at home, where the Fazekas, Torocsik, Fekete-trio habitually run rings around opposing defences. But as visitors, Dozsa won only once, drew five times and lost twice! Manager Pal Varhidi agrees: "We must improve our away form if we want to win the league. I am dissatisfied with the results — the point dropped against Izzo and the defeat v MAV Elore were criminal. Individually, several players did well, apart from one or two games. Rothermel in goal, Ede Dunai in the heart of the defence, the ageless Zambo and the three forwards".

Diosgyor. (22 points) are the best provincial team, a fact underlined by their emphatic victory over Raba Eto in the last round. Raba and Tatabanya are joint 5th and 6th on 19 points. Videoton, once challengers for top spots, are going through a transitional period while several of their top players are doing Army service. Vasas are 11th with a mere 14 points. Manager Meszoly says: "I am sad to report that none of our aims came to fruition this season. Our results, team building, playing-style were all disappointments. The reasons? They go back to years of neglect, wrong attitudes, wrong priorities."

Poor, old Kalman! He ought to know about attitudes . . . MTK-VM have one point less than Vasas, and are two points above the "relegation group" of Csepel, Haladas and Izzo. Mezei Gyorgy, MTK's boss, feels that to finish in the top eight is still not beyond the team's capability, but he needs more luck with injuries. Good job that footballers do get injured, otherwise managers wouldn't have any excuse for dismal performances. . . .

In our September issue, I wrote these prophetic words concerning the one year bans imposed on Tibor Nyilasi and Andras Torocsik. "These sentences are usually halved in Hungary, and my guess is that both "Toro" and "Tibi" will be forgiven around Christmas time. But Santa Claus will arrive too late to save Hungary from European Championship elimination by the Russians, who are waiting to revenge their World Cup defeat".

Yes, it did happen — the ban is lifted. Yes — Hungary did drop four points in the European tourney. When will they ever learn?

NORTH AMERICA by Colin Jose

Second place pleases the Canadians . . .

IF one were to draw up a list of places for consideration as being in the four corners of the earth, then high on that list would have to be Tegucigalpa, the capital city of the Central American republic of Honduras. Located 3,070 feet above sea level, Tegucigalpa is one of the least known capital cities in the world and in a soccer sense a city visited by very few teams from outside of the Central American area.

Yet between November 26 and December 17, Tegucigalpa was the centre of the seventh CONCACAF Youth Tournament the outcome of which decided two of the 16 finalists who will compete in the FIFA World Youth Tournament for the Coca Cola Cup to be held in Japan from August 25 to September 9, 1979.

Originally 19 nations from the North and Central American and Caribbean region entered but by the time the tournament opened six of those nations had dropped out, leaving the organisers to rearrange the groupings and the whole format by which the finalists would be decided.

In one respect the outcome was predictable for the tournament was won by Mexico who had captured all six previous championships, and in addition were the beaten finalists in the first FIFA World Youth Tournament held in Tunisia in 1977. But what was not forseen was the struggle the Mexicans would have to retain their title and the direction that the main challenge would come from.

The Mexicans, were not located in Tegucigalpa but in one of the two groups scheduled to play in the city of San Pedro Sula near to the coast of the Gulf of Mexico. Their group included Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles and El Salvador. The other group playing in San Pedro Sula was Costa Rica, Bermuda and Haiti.

Playing in the capital were the host nation Honduras along with Canada and the Dominican Republic in one group, and the United States, Puerto Rico and Trinidad in the other.

Mexico won its group comfortably defeating Grenada 7-0, the Netherlands Antilles 5-0 and El Salvador 2-0. Costa Rica topped the other group in San Pedro Sula winning 4-2 over Bermuda and 1-0 over Haiti. Thus Mexico and Costa Rica qualified for the second round along with El Salvador and Haiti who finished second in their respective groups with Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles and Bermuda being eliminated.

In Tegucigalpa, Canada got off to a great start hammering the Dominican Republic 9-0, but one week later were beaten 2-0 by Honduras who had beaten the Dominican Republic 5-0. In the other group the United States beat Puerto Rico 2-0 and Trinidad 4-0, putting them in the second round along with Trinidad who defeated Puerto Rico 2-1. Honduras (beaten finalists in Puerto Rico in 1976) also reached the second round along with Canada. The Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico were of course eliminated.

Mexico ran into problems in the second round narrowly beating Haiti 1-0, then struggling against El Salvador in a vicious game before winning 3-1. Finally they were beaten 3-1 by Costa Rica who earlier had tied 1-1 with El Salvador and beaten Haiti 3-0. So Costa Rica topped this group with Mexico finishing second, both nations reaching the semi-finals.

Meanwhile in Tegucigalpa, Canada and the United States had played a scoreless tie while Honduras had beaten Trinidad 3-0. Canada and Honduras and the U.S. and Trinidad then met for the second time with Honduras beating Canada 1-0 and Trinidad upsetting the Americans 3-1. In the final games Canada outclassed Trinidad to win 3-0 and Honduras beat the United States 1-0, putting Honduras and Canada into the semi-finals.

Two groups

The top team in each of the two groups had to play at home with the second place team travelling. This meant that the Mexicans had to travel to Tegucigalpa to meet Honduras while Canada had to go to San Pedro Sula to play Costa Rica. To the disappointment of almost 35,000 fans Mexico beat Honduras 2-0, while up in the north where heavy rains had caused extensive flooding Canada, with a superb display of controlled soccer beat favoured Costa Rica 4-0.

So it was a Canada versus Mexico final with both teams assured of places in the world finals in Japan. In what Canadian team manager John McMahon called the best game in the tournament the two teams were scoreless at the end of regulation time before a capacity crowd in the national stadium in Tegucigalpa. But eight minutes into extra time a shot by a Mexican player hit their leading goalscorer Omar Mendiburu and deflected past Canadian goalkeeper Chris Turner for the only goal of the game.

It was a jubilant Canadian team that returned home despite their defeat in the final, knowing full well that in reaching the world finals they had given the game in Canada a tremendous boost. With them they brought not only the second place trophy but also the fair play trophy as the most sporting team in the competition.

On the face of it Canada's record of three wins, three defeats and a tie hardly stamps them as strong challengers for the title, but when you look a little more closely you see that their defence gave up just four goals in seven games and in four games held the opposition scoreless.

On the other hand their attack found scoring easy in some games and difficult in others. They got nine against the hapless Dominican Republic and then went three games without scoring before scoring seven in their next two games. In trying to explain this puzzle one Canadian player Paul Roe said: "In some games we had trouble hitting the net, while in others we were stopped by brilliant goalkeeping notably against the United States and Mexico."

McMahon praised coach Barrie Clarke for the play of the Canadian team saying: "He is a modern, up-to-date soccer man who also emphasises discipline. He received tremendous respect from the players." He wouldn't single out any individual players but placed the credit for the team's success on team work noting that in the latter stages the Canadians "kept getting better with each game".

Trainer Pat Quinn however, taking part in his third CONCACAF youth tournament, and the trainer for the Toronto Metros-Croatia in the NASL, was most impressed by the play of Canadian sweeper Danny Lenarduzzi of Vancouver. "I've rarely seen a sweeper with the poise of Danny Lenarduzzi," he said, "he was so cool he just strolled around back there."

A number of players from this team will undoubtedly be drafted into the Canadian Olympic and Pan American Games teams this year but the youth team might well undertake a European tour before going to Japan.

But if the Canadians are jubilant there is disappointment in the United States where they had high hopes of their youth team. The Americans started well but failed in the final analysis and in so doing failed to emulate the 1976 U.S. youth team who reached the semi-finals of this competition.

1978 CONCACAF YOUTH TOURNAMENT

Tegucigalpa — Group A
Canada 9 Dominican Republic 0
Honduras 5 Dominican Republic 0
Honduras 2 Canada 0

Tegucigalpa — Group B
United States 2 Puerto Rico 0
Puerto Rico 1 Trinidad 2
United States 4 Trinidad 0

Tegucigalpa — 2nd Round
Canada 0 United States 0
Honduras 3 Trinidad 0
Canada 0 Honduras 1
United States 1 Trinidad 3
Canada 3 Trinidad 0
Honduras 1 United States 0

San Pedro Sula — Group C
Mexico 7 Grenada 0
El Salvador 2 Netherlands Ant. 0
Netherlands Ant. 3 Grenada 2
El Salvador 0 Mexico 2
El Salvador 3 Grenada 0
Mexico 5 Netherlands Ant. 0

San Pedro Sula — Group D
Costa Rica 4 Bermuda 2
Haiti 2 Bermuda 1
Costa Rica 1 Haiti 0

San Pedro Sula – 2nd Round
Costa Rica 1 El Salvador 1
Mexico 1 Haiti 0
El Salvador 1 Mexico 3
Costa Rica 3 Haiti 0
El Salvador 4 Haiti 0
Mexico 1 Costa Rica 3

Semi-finals
Mexico 2 Honduras 0 (Tegucigalpa)
Canada 4 Costa Rica 0 (San Pedro Sula)

3rd Place
Honduras 2 Costa Rica 1

Final
Mexico 1 Canada 0

INTER NOW SOLE HOPE FOR ITALY

INCREDIBLE though it may seem, Italy's sole hopes of any sort of European glory this season rest on Internazionale of Milan in the Cup-winners' Cup.

Everyone else has gone: Juventus in the Champions' Cup, Milan, Vicenza, Torino and Napoli in the UEFA Cup. Yet while Juventus certainly and Milan perhaps have greater prestige outside Italy, it is a fact that Inter are most successful of the Peninsula clubs in international competition.

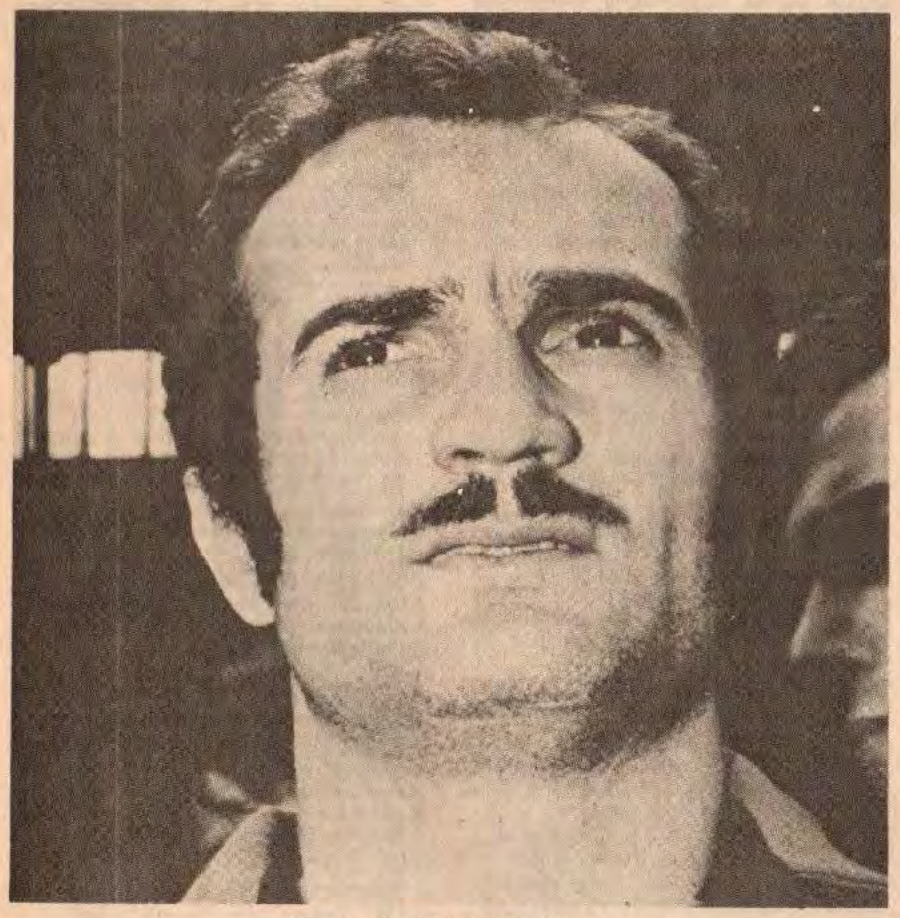
In 1964 and 1965 they won both the world club cup and the Champions' Cup and were Champions' Cup finalists in 1967 (1-2 v Cetic) and 1972 (0-2 v Ajax). Juventus have only ever won the UEFA Cup once, while Milan have won the Champions' Cup twice in three finals, the Cup-winners' Cup twice, with the world club cup once.

It's now a very different Inter to the team of such awesome defensive steel in the mid-1960s under Helenio Herrera. In the last 18 months the last survivors of the great era have gone: Sandro Mazzola retired in 1977 to move into the club offices, while Giacinto Facchetti quit at the end of the last season and was last heard of considering an offer to become trainer of Swiss club Lausanne.

Inter's present team, composed of new signings and youngsters, is thus a side still searching for its identity, a cause which may well be resolved only when the frontiers are opened to foreigners again next season. Inter have taken out a £60,000 option on French forward Michel Platini and have made tentative inquiries about the Brazilian, Zico.

Meanwhile they mark time by pushing onward in the Cup-winners' Cup, which looks their best hope of a prize since their young team are short on the experience needed to land the Italian league title. With the foreigners next season it may be different. . . .

The foreign legion have always been important to Inter. They are, in fact, the club's very raison d'etre, for it was back on March 9, 1908, that the club first saw the light, thanks to dissatisfied members of Milan.



Sandro Mazzola of Inter Milan.

CLUB FOCUS
by Keir Radnedge

INTERNAZIONALE FOOTBALL CLUB

Founded: March 9, 1908.
Stadium San Siro (capacity temporarily reduced to 68,000; shared with Milan).
Colours: Blue and black striped shirts, black shorts, black socks with blue tops.
World club cup: 1964, 1965.
Champions' Cup: 1964, 1965 (Runners-up 1967, 1972).
Championship: 1910, 1920, 1930, 1938, 1940, 1953, 1954, 1963, 1965, 1966, 1971 (11 wins).
Cup: 1939, 1978 (twice).
President: Ivanoe Fraizzoli.
Executive director: Giancarlo Beltrami.
Counsellor: Sandro Mazzola.
Trainer: Eugenio Bersellini.

Milan had won the fledgling Italian championship three times already, thanks to a number of English, Scotsmen, and Swiss. After winning the third title, committee member Giovanni Paramithiotti proposed that commemorative medallions be presented to the Swiss quartet who, of course, were true amateurs. Gianni Camperio, the chairman of the committee, refused to consider the matter.

Camperio was equally blunt in turning down a proposal that student members, though paying a reduced fee of five lire to the full members' 10, should nevertheless be granted full voting rights.

A dissidents' meeting soon followed in Milano's Orlogio restaurant. There were 45 present, and they set in motion the Internazionale Football Club. Clearly they had no idea what they were unleashing. Paramithiotti was the first president, and the first club captain was a Swiss, Ernst Manktl.

The big problem was finding somewhere to play. First Inter settled for a pitch on the banks of the Naviglio, but since this was flooded for much of the winter they quickly moved to the the Arena which would later become a famous home of Milanese football before the development of the municipal San Siro stadium.

Already Inter had adopted the famous blue and black striped shirts and under the captaincy of centre half Virgilio Fossati they won their first championship in 1910.

The early years had been dominated first by Genoa, then Milan, now by Pro Vercelli and it was after Pro Vercelli and Inter finished level on 25 points that a play-off was ordered. That Inter should have been there was remarkable, for after three games they had been bottom of the table!

The play-off was set for April 24, at the Arena. But after the date was announced it was discovered that a military match had been set for that place and day already. The federation ordered the play-off to be switched to Vercelli, but Vercelli protested that three of their best players would be in the army game.

The federation suggested May 1, but Inter refused on the grounds of other

THE PLAYERS

IVANO BORDON. Goalkeeper. Aged 27 — one cap, in 2-1 defeat by Spain last January. Made league debut for Inter in 3-0 defeat by Milan when he was only 19. Played in 1972 Champions' cup final and is in ninth season with Inter. Up to the start of the season had played 137 league games, conceding 114 goals. Challenging Dino Zoff for Italy place. Only Inter player in Argentina squad. Born Venice.

RENATO CIPOLLINI. Goalkeeper. Aged 33. Joined Inter 1977 and has yet to play in the league for them after a career mainly in second division with Spal, Brescia, Como and Atalanta. Born Milan.

GRAZIANO BINI. Sweeper. Aged 24 — two B caps, two juniors. Made league debut at 17 in 1972 but was forced, much to his displeasure, to play at stopper and full back until the retirement of Facchetti allowed him to establish himself in his favourite role of sweeper. Cup-winner's medal. 88 games, one goal. Born Cremona.

GIUSEPPE BARESI. Full back. Aged 21. League debut in 2-1 win over Vicenza in September 1977. Brother of Milan sweeper Franco — they faced each other in recent derby which Milan won 1-0. Cup winner's medal; 20 games. Born Brescia.

NAZZARENO CANUTI. Full back. Aged 22 — 11 junior caps. One of only four Inter players in World Cup 40. Cup-winners' medal — 40 games, one goal. Born Mantova.

ADRIANO FEDELE. Full back or stopper. Aged 31. Began with Udinese and spent six years in third division before joining Bologna in 1970. Inter signed him in 1973. Now totals 189 first division games, 17 goals. Cup medal. Born Udine.

SILVANO FONTOLAN. Defender. Aged 23. Signed from Como last summer. Played 30 games with two goals in first division. Born Milan.

GABRIELE ORIALI. Defender or defensive midfielder. Aged 26. Joined Inter in 1970 and played in 1972 Champions' Cup final. Became so disillusioned two years he nearly quit football, but after having second thoughts has shown outstanding form and was rewarded with first cap recently against Spain. One championship, one cup medal. Born Como. 153 games, 12 goals.

EVARISTO BECCALOSSI. Midfield. Aged 22. Inter paid £400,000 for him last summer after six outstanding seasons in the second division with Brescia. Nicknamed a 'new Rivera, but has found the pressure of the tag hard to shake off. Born Brescia.

ODOACRE CHIERICO. Midfield. Aged 19. League debut in 1-0 defeat by Lazio a year ago — ironically, for he was born in Rome. One cup final medal.

GIAMPIERO MARINI. Midfield. Aged 28 on February 25. Made his league debut for Varese in 2-0 win over Inter in 1974, moving to Milano a year later. Has played 112 first division games, with four goals and has been a regular in midfield over the past three seasons. One cup medal. Born Milan.

GIANCARLO PASINATO. Midfield. Aged 22. Cost £600,000 from Ascoli during the summer in deal which took ex-Italy spearhead Pietro Anastasi the other way. Hard worker with reputation for snap-shot goals, has had trouble settling in and was sent off in Cup-winners' tie against Bodoe Glimt. Born Padova. The great new hope of Inter fans, along with Beccalossi.

ALESSANDRO SCANZIANI. Forward. Aged 25. Played for Meda, Como, Livorno and Como again before joining Inter in 1977. Scored six goals in 23 games in his first season and won a cup medal. Born Milan.

ROBERTO TRICELLA. Forward or midfield. Aged 19. Won a cup medal after only playing one league game, a 1-1 draw away to Genoa last April. Born Milan.

ALESSANDRO ALTOBELLI. Striker. Aged 23. Began with third division Latina, his home-town team, then had three years with Brescia in the second division before joining Inter in 1977 and hitting 10 goals in 28 games to finish their top scorer and push Anastasi out of the club. Scored five goals in a friendly against the Chinese national team before the start of the season and got a hat-trick against Floriana in the Cup-winners' Cup. Had trouble finding the net however in the league and was sent off for retaliation in derby defeat by Milan. Cup medal.

CARLO MURARO. Striker. Aged 23. A rare Inter product, made his debut in 1-0 home defeat by Cagliari in 1974 and was loaned to Varese in 1975-76 where he proved his goal potential. Inter recalled him and in each of the last two seasons he has scord nine goals in 24 games. Cup medal. A protege of Helenio Herrera. Born Padova.

commitments. It was back to April 24. Vercelli threatened to boycott the game; the federation threatened to expel the club sine die. Vercelli's answer was to send out their youth team and Inter had no trouble winning their first league title, 11-3!

Yet their hero was goalkeeper Pierino Campelli, the first Italian to try to catch the ball rather than punch clear as everyone else had done up to then.

It was 1920 before Inter won the league again and in the meantime relations with Milan reached a new low after Inter poached the brilliant three Cevenini brothers in the years before the first world war. The war itself cost Inter no fewer than 26 directors or players, among them Fossati. But it was with his younger brother, Pino Fossati, in his place that Inter regained the title in 1920, beating Livorno 3-2 in the grand final.

But such was Inter's peculiar progress that, just as they had to wait 10 years to the start of a new decade for their second title, so they had to go the same distance, until 1930, for title No. 3.

Now they boasted new stars, in the full back Luigi Allemandi who had been suspended for life in 1927 for fixing a game while with Juventus; in centre half Gipo Viani who would later become successful general manager of Milan; and in brilliant forwards Pietro Serantoni and Giuseppe Meazza, who would win World Cup medals in 1934 (and Meazza again in 1938).

Serantoni and Viani had both come to the club under the merger forced by the Nazi-controlled football authorities in time for the first full Italian league championship and which meant that Inter joined forces with the Unione Sportiva Milanese club and became Ambrosiana.

So it was as Ambrosiana that they won the 1930 championship, as Ambrosiana that they competed without much luck in the Mitropa Cup, and as Ambrosiana that they led Juventus by five points in the 1934 league race yet finished four points behind!

More foreigners kept arriving, such as Attilio Demaria from Argentina to reinforce the forwards, and the big Uruguayan centre half Riccardo Faccio, but it was Meazza who remained the key to the championship wins in 1938 and 1940 and the cup final victory in 1939.

After the war Ambrosiana became Internazionale again but remained among the supporting cast to first Torino, then Milan, then Juventus, until the arrival of Helenio Herrera in 1960.

In that modern era Inter had won the title only twice, in 1953 and 1954, thanks to a defensive tactic with right winger Gino Armano back in midfield, and goals being provided by the sharp counter-attacking incision of the Swede Lennart Skoglund, the Hungarian Stefano Nyers — signed from Stade Français — and Italian centre forward 'Poison' Lorenzi.

This was no memorable team however. Inter's best days were yet to come.

Herrera arrived having been hounded out of Barcelona after their Champions' Cup elimination by Real Madrid. Born in Argentina, brought up in Casablanca, and a naturalised Frenchman who had worked in France, Spain and Portugal, he promised to take Inter to the title with attacking football.

But after his early enthusiasm had been tempered with an understanding of the realities of the defensive Italian league he decided to rebuild a team which would be the most effectively defensive of all, and the championship duly arrived in the spring of 1963.

In Tarcisio Burgnich and the young Facchetti, who would go on to a record 94 caps for Italy, Herrera had two intelligent full backs who close-marked their respective opponents all over the pitch — disciplined play which provided the bonus of many goals, particularly for Facchetti. In Armando Picchi, Herrera found a practical no-nonsense sweeper who could read a game brilliantly, and in midfield the Spaniard Luis Suarez, who had followed HH from Barcelona, was the turning wheel of the machine.

Alongside Suarez to provide variety was the unpredictably talented Mario Corso, with flighty Brazilian outside right Jair da Costa, and the great new discovery, Sandro Mazzola, the stars in attack.

Herrera's strength was in never being satisfied with success. Having won the 1963 title he signed ice-cool goalkeeper Giuliano Sarti and, to back his Champions' Cup squad, the West German wing half Horst Szymaniak; later came another Spaniard in striker Joaquin Peiro and the brilliant Atalanta forward Angelo Domenghini.

The results were spectacular. In 1964 Inter beat Real Madrid 3-1 to win the Champions' Cup and Independiente 0-1, 3-0, 1-0 (in Madrid) for the world club cup; in 1965 they beat Benfica 1-0 to keep the European crown and Independienti again, this time 3-0, 0-0.

Then the empire began to crumble. Inter were surprisingly eliminated from the Champions' Cup in the 1966 semi-finals by Real Madrid; in 1967, lacking the vital and injured Suarez, they lost 2-1 in the final to Celtic; and in 1968 oil millionaire Angelo Moratti stepped down after 13 years as president and Herrera went to Rome.

First Alfredo Foni — who had masterminded the 1953 and 1954 titles — returned as coach, then Heriberto Herrera, but it was under ex-Inter wing half Gianni Invernizzi that they reached the Champions' Cup final again in 1972. They were lucky to be there, having been beaten 7-1 along the way by Borussia Moenchengladbach, but luckily gaining a replay because of the controversial Coca-Cola can which felled centre forward Roberto Boninsegna.

In the final only Mazzola played with much belief in victory in hostile Rotterdam, and two goals from Johan Cruyff wrapped it up for Ajax.

Invernizzi was dismissed six months later and new president Ivanoe Fraizzoli attempted to turn the clock back when he landed Helenio Herrera in 1973. But the following spring Herrera suffered a heart attack and Enea Masiero stepped up from the youth section.

Inter were now straddling the troubled years which come to every great team: the years in which the veterans remain but the youngsters must be tried out. And the various ideas led to the ludicrous situation of Masiero engaged in a heated war of words with the hospital bed-ridden Herrera, all conducted through the newspapers.

At the season's end both men parted company with the club and first Luis Suarez, then Beppe Chiappella tried to continue the rebuilding. However it has only been with the arrival of 42-year-old Eugenio Bersellini from Cesena in 1977, the departures of Mazzola and Facchetti, and the recent signings of several class youngsters that there are at last signs of promise following the 2-1 cup final win over Napoli.

Inter's further progress in the Cup-winners' cup — they have so far beaten minnows Floriana 3-1, 5-0 and Bodoe Glimt 5-0, 2-1 — will give a better clue to their potential, with or without foreigners.

KEEGAN IS A SUCCESS

by

Ken Goldman

Kevin Keegan, with the England team in Argentina.

FROM the moment that Kevin Keegan made his debut for Liverpool until his transfer to S.V. Hamburg he was a considerable success.

He deserved to be voted the European Footballer of the Year and anyone who saw his performance in Rome when Liverpool first won the European Cup will vouch for his unqualified ability.

Not only as goal scorer but goal maker and emergency mid-field player, Keegan's versatility and enthusiasm make him an exceptional player.

Just recently of course, Keegan scored his first hat-trick for S.V. Hamburg and has been voted the players' Player of the Year in Germany. All of this shows his character and what the Americans call "true grit" in overcoming difficulties of language and a new football system and which has allowed him to emerge as one of the few British players who have made the transition to success in a foreign country's footballing fields.

I was able to catch up with Kevin Keegan when he made one of several trips to England and despite pressure he spared a few moments to sit down with me and answer some questions.

I first asked Kevin about the difference between playing techniques in Germany and those in the Football League. He answered quite simply: "The Germans do not cross long balls to the far post, as the English tend to do. They play a lot more one-two's and angled passes, especially to front players, and try to reach the foot farthest away from the marker.

"In addition, the Germans are more prepared to surrender mid-field and allow opponents to run with the ball at them. The game over there is, in a lot of ways, the same as English football, but it is easy in one respect to get used to the German system, because all the teams play the same way, especially in the use of a sweeper. As a result of this, it is much more difficult for them to play the off-side game."

I queried whether there was a distinct difference between the timing and pattern of training than that carried out in England. After indicating that there was, he went on to say: "Over in Germany we train twice a day, most days. The morning session runs from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the afternoon session goes from 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. This means there is no going off in the afternoon for the player to do his own thing.

"As there are less league games and also less cup games in Germany than there are in England, the coaches tend to concentrate more on ball skills than on stamina. They also make us work longer at finishing practices."

Referring to the 1977 European Cup Final in Rome, and one or two of his recent games for England, I asked whether he relished playing in the middle of the attack despite being closely marked there.

Keegan replied: "Actually I like to be given a free role, and be able to play where I think I can have my best game. If I feel I can do better on the wing, I like to be able to play there. The worst thing a coach can say to me is to do a certain thing, or play in a certain position. The best thing he can say, is to tell me to play my own game."

Much has been said of late that Keegan has improved both his game and his personality by having gone to Germany, and this was a question that I put to him. With a modest smile, he went on to say: "I think I have now improved my game, and I do not believe it would have got better staying in England. I have no wish to knock English football, and indeed find the German game very similar, but my remark is personal to me and not intended to imply any criticism of English football."

Having played for Liverpool for so long, and having been such a successful part of the team, I tried to find out from Kevin the secret of Liverpool's success.

As I suspected, there was not any facile answer available, but instead he replied: "There is no real reason you can simply specify. Perhaps each player would give you a different answer. However, I can say that the club is great, the backroom staff and management are tremendous, and the typical Liverpool player is the perfect professional.

"The players are encouraged to believe that it is expected of them to win, and sometimes if they get an away point in a draw, they are disappointed at the result. I can only say that when the Liverpool players pull their shirts on they do not need any further motivation than that."

Finally, I turned to the England team, and questioned whether it was really on the up-grade, and what the spirit was like. This time I did receive an expected answer, and one which will no doubt delight all England and Keegan fans, because he said: "The spirit which Ron Greenwood the manager, has built up is tremendous, and it is a pleasure to be part of it. We are given freedom to behave like adults and we are encouraged both to take responsibility and to contribute to team talks."

There is no doubt that Kevin Keegan will go on to greater things than he has already achieved. If anyone has any doubt about this, they should only try to get a sight of the Opix Film in the "Focus on Soccer" series entitled "The Striker" — depicting Kevin Keegan in action both on the field and in training.

With excellent voice-over remarks by Keegan, this shows him in training and in action for both Liverpool and Hamburg and demonstrates why he has become the player he is today. Truly, it is an example to all aspiring youngsters in that for him, and for others in the future, it was yesterday — Scunthorpe — and tomorrow the World.

CHA KUN BUM IN BUNDESLIGA

THE Bundesliga is fast developing a reputation for attracting players from all corners of the world and the Asiatic area is no exception.

Newly promoted SV Darmstadt produced an unusual signing just in time to play against Bochum in one of the rearranged matches played off before the second half of the programme resumed.

They snapped up South Korean Air Force officer Cha Kun Bum from the Asian Games and flew him to West Germany in his track suit to beat the deadline.

The South Korean international who had been the top scorer in the Asian Games and has over 40 caps for his country did well and played a big part in what was their third win of the season.

This 3-1 success and the infusion of what appears to be a useful recruit, might help to ease fears of relegation at the first attempt.

Cha Kun Bum went back to his native country and will return to Darmstadt when he has been discharged from the air force. The signing is also unusual because Darmstadt have not had to pay a fee for him.

★ ★ ★

BARCELONA fans who have been understandably sad this season at the decision of Johan Cruyff to retire from the game have been surprised and delighted with the overall form of his successor Hans Krankl.

The Austrian international centre-forward hit five goals against Rayo Vallecano in a 9-0 win for Barcelona to take his total in League games to 18 in 16 matches.

And since Real Madrid keep dropping points at vital moments and Gijon have been unable to take advantage of the situation, it might well be that Barcelona can channel their resources through Krankl towards the Spanish title again.

Krankl is also now within striking distance of the leading marksmen in Europe and he might well finish as top scorer in the entire Continent which would be an added bonus if Barcelona managed to pull off the domestic championship as well.

For the Hungarians, selection by order had proved a success; for the Russians, a flop, though the Hungarians did at least cope with the following years rather better, qualifying for the World Cup Finals in 1958, 1962 and 1966, reaching the quarter-finals on the latter two occasions.

Far more successful over the years has proved the equable arrangement which has suited the Belgians, Dutch and Germans. In their cases a club side has been used as a base only when the practicalities meant there was no other possibility, with most outstanding players already in one club.

The first successful club base was, however, an Italian one — provided by Juventus. Vittorio Pozzo used five of their players in the team who won on their own pitches, in Mussolini's Nazi-orientated 1934 World Cup.

After the war it was the other Turin club, Torino, who provided the backbone as the Italians prepared to defend their world title in Brazil in 1950. Sadly Torino's first-team squad was wiped out in the 1949 Superga air crash, but not before ten of their players had appeared together for Italy in a 3-2 win over — ironically — Hungary, on May 11, 1947, in Turin.

Captain of that fine team, which won the league five seasons in a row, was Valentino Mazzola, father of Sandro, the latter-day hero of Internazionale's European and world club cup-winning team in 1964 and 1965. Inter, in their day, furnished a string of players for Italy, but as in Liverpool's case, their impact was comparatively small because two key men, Spain's Luis Suarez and Brazil's Jair da Costa, could not play for Italy.

But there was no such problem in the early 1960s for Belgium. Anderlecht, guided in midfield by Jef Jurion and with Paul van Himst outstanding in attack, were light years ahead of their domestic rivals. But that wasn't the only reason which made use of them as backbone of the national team common sense.

Under Frenchman, Pierra Sinibaldi, Anderlecht based their tactics on a rigid offside trap applied by their well-disciplined back four of Heylans, Verbiest, Lippens then Plaskie, and Cornelis.

Out of sheer tactical necessity there was no other solution. They had to pick Anderlecht virtually en bloc or else risk tactical confusion by trying to integrate men used in their own clubs to operate a man-for-man or sweeper defence system.

The reliance of Anderlecht reached such proportions that in April, 1964, no fewer than ten of the club's players started a game against Holland, and the club's goalkeeper, Jean Trappeniers, appeared as substitute after half-time, making Belgium all-Anderlecht.

The result was a 1-0 win, but after failure to reach the 1966 World Cup Finals Anderlecht started to rebuild, took to importing more foreigners, and Belgium had to think again.

The Belgian experiment was thus no lasting success, but ten years later the possibilities of the club base became plain in the 1974 World Cup Final. In Sepp Maier, Franz Beckenbauer, Georg Schwarzenbeck, Paul Breitner, Uli Hoeness and Gerd Müller, the Germans included six of the men who had, a few weeks before, starred in Bayern Munich's Champions' Cup win over Atletico Madrid.

And in that World Cup Final, in their own "home" Olympic stadium in Munich, both German goals came from local men. After the Dutch had gone ahead from an opening-minute Neeskens penalty, Paul Breitner equalised — also from the spot — and Müller snapped up what proved to be the winner just before half-time.

Holland, too, used a club base — Ajax Amsterdam, whose Champions' Cup crown had just been taken over after three years by Bayern. Ajax had five men in the team which swept superbly to the final, defenders Wim Suurbier, Arie Haan and Rudi Krol, mid-fielder Johan Neeskens, and right-flank striker Johnny Rep. Above all, Holland had the leadership of their former Ajax team-mate, Johan Cruyff, who had left for Barcelona, in Spain, only nine months' before.

But it's not always been so straightforward for national teams to absorb the best club side in Europe — and that point was proved by Spain in the late 1950s when Real Madrid and Barcelona were playing some of the best football in the world.

Madrid won the Champions' Cup five years in a row from 1956, and Barcelona took the first two Fairs Cups in 1958 and 1960. But despite players of the calibre of Di Stefano, Santamaria, Gento and Marquitos from Madrid and Ramallets, Segarra, Verges, Kubala and Suarez from Barcelona, Spain's national team was never a consistent success.

Although on paper their record looks useful, with 21 matches played, 15 won and only three lost between January, 1957 — when Di Stefano marked his debut with three goals against Holland — to July, 1960, in fact,

● *Continued from page 25*

they failed to reach the 1958 World Cup Finals and didn't cut much of a figure in Chile when they did get through in 1962.

By then Madrid's Puskas had been converted into a Spaniard, but injury robbed them of Di Stefano and retirement of Kubala and Spain went out in the first round.

The difficulty had been that the two great club teams retained their own pride and patterns. Real's players had been taught to look always for Di Stefano when in possession; the Barcelona men played everything through Kubala, and later Suarez.

It was as if two five-a-side teams were playing in the same direction and just as confusing!

Another problem was that club demands took precedence over the national team — a situation which has appeared elsewhere. Only a matter of weeks before the 1978 World Cup Finals, West German manager, Helmut Schoen, was heard to complain that when he picked players from double-winners Köln, they went down injured at the last minute, yet recovered in time for the next league game.

The lesson seems to be that if a national manager can obtain reasonable co-operation from his major club, he should make the most of their players, but not pick them just for the sake of it.

While Bayern ruled Schwarzenbeck was far from the best stopped in the *Bundesliga*, but by virtue of playing alongside Beckenbauer and Maier in the heart of defence was the ideal man to accompany them into the national team.

In cases such as that the club unit has obvious advantages. But there are disadvantages. Other players can resent a one-club state, and find difficulty adjusting to the tactics. That was one of the complaints after England, with seven Arsenal men, beat Italy 3-2 in the infamous Battle of Highbury in 1934.

Club and country can work. West Germany and Holland proved it in 1974. But it is no short-cut to success. The use of Bayern and Ajax men was worthwhile because they were outstanding players and because of shrewd preparation. It is no substitute for ability at playing or management level.

Back when the arguments began, in 1872 and 1895, the Scots certainly didn't make great gains from the block selection of Queen's Park against England. Each game ended in a draw.

EURO-RESULTS

compiled by Keir Radnedge

DECEMBER is always a lean month in the European international calendar. The club competitions have gone into abeyance until the spring, and with more and more countries instituting some sort of winter break, the national teams go into mothballs.

But there were a couple of special occasions. At club level Anderlecht regained the Super Cup they first won in 1976 by defeating Liverpool over two legs, while among national teams West Germany scored an excellent 3-1 win over Holland.

Spain were also in action in the Italians' new traditional pre-Christmas friendly, while Czechoslovakia — their league having shut down — sent the national squad to play club sides, also in Italy.

The European championship gets back into its stride this month (February) with England at home to Northern Ireland and Scotland at home to Belgium on February 7. On the 25th West Germany make their bow, visiting Malta. England, Scotland and the Germans should all take two valuable points as should France, who are at home to Luxembourg on the 18th.

EUROPEAN SUPER CUP

First leg — December 4

Anderlecht 3 (Vercauteren 17, Van der Elst 40, Rensenbrink 88)
Liverpool 1 (Case 27)
Ht: 2-1. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Palotai (Hun.).

It was a game of also-rans. Both clubs had been toppled, Liverpool in the Champions' Cup by Nottingham Forest, Anderlecht in the Cup-winners' contest by Barcelona. But for all that this was a lively, entertaining game, with Ray Clemence soon in action to foil Anderlecht's attacking right back François Van der Elst.

Jimmy Case and Ray Kennedy weren't far off target at the other end before, in the 17th minute, Anderlecht went ahead. Rob Rensenbrink pounced on a mistake by Graeme Souness, held off two defenders, and crossed for Frankie Vercauteren to head in. Liverpool struck back 10 minute later when Case weaved past three men and hammered a typical drive past Nico De Bree.

Anderlecht returned to the attack. A 35th-minute shot from Ludo Coeck was stopped at the second attempt by Clemence and after Johnson forced a diving save from De Bree, Anderlecht went back ahead when Van der Elst hit in a cross from Benny Nielsen.

Jean Thissen was booked on half-time for a careless foul on Kenny Dalglish and it looked as if Liverpool had escaped comparatively successfully as the second half ticked away.

However Rensenbrink, denied by a goal-line stop from Emlyn Hughes early in the second half, hadn't finished. With two minutes to go he snapped up a pass from Arie Haan and drifted round Alan Hansen to score No. 3.

"Mentally we were just not tuned in," said Liverpool manager Bob Paisley after a dressing-room dressing-down for his team. Anderlecht's Raymond Goethals commented: "It's not over yet."

Anderlecht: De Bree — Van der Elst, Broos, Dusbaba, Thissen — Haan, Coeck, Vercauteren, Nielsen — Geels, Rensenbrink.

Liverpool: Clemence — Neal, Hughes, Hansen, A. Kennedy — Case, McDermott, Souness, R. Kennedy — Dalglish, Johnson (Heighway 54).

Second leg — December 19

Liverpool 2 (Hughes 13, Fairclough 84)
Anderlecht 1 (Van der Elst 71)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 23,598. **Ref:** N. Rainea (Rum).
Anderlecht win 4-3 on agg.

Liverpool were forced into changes for the return. Ray Clemence turned his ankle in a practice game, so Steve Ogrizovic took over in goal; with Phil Thompson fit again, Hughes retained his place only by virtue of Alan Kennedy's groin strain; finally 'super-sub' David Fairclough took over in attack from Steve Heighway.

Liverpool were the Cup holders, having thrashed Hamburg last season, but swirling fog and an ice-bound Anfield pitch meant they were up against the elements before they considered beating the Belgians as well.

Rumanian World Cup referee Nicolae Rainea delayed the kick-off quarter of an hour in the hope that conditions might improve and when it did get under way Liverpool took an early lead when Jacques Munaron could only parry a Case cross drive and Hughes followed up to score.

Anderlecht stole out of the fog occasionally to test Ogrizovic through Vercauteren and Van der Elst but it was mainly Liverpool in control and Johnny Dusbaba was booked for holding Souness.

After half-time Anderlecht became more daring, despite the forced substitution of the injured Ruud Geels. Twice Ogrizovic kept out shots from his substitute, Maertens, but finally Van der Elst took a return from Rensenbrink to equalise.

Fairclough did snatch a late match winner after Dalglish headed on a Thompson clearance, but Anderlecht were home and dry.

Liverpool: Ogrizovic — Neal, Thompson, Hansen, Hughes — Case, McDermott, Souness, R. Kennedy — Dalglish, Fairclough.

Anderlecht: Munaron — Van Binst, Van Toorn, Dusbaba, Thissen — Vercauteren, Van der Elst, Haan, Coeck — Geels (Maertens 46), Rensenbrink.

PREVIOUS WINNERS: 1972 Ajax. 1973 Ajax. 1974 —. 1975 Dynamo Kiev. 1976 Anderlecht. 1977 Liverpool.

DECEMBER INTERNATIONALS

DECEMBER 13

Salamanca — Euro. Ch'ship group three

Spain 5 (Asensi 9, Del Bosque 10, Santillana 52 and 77, Ruben Cano 65)
Cyprus 0
Ht: 2-0. **Att:** 17,500. **Ref:** Bonnet (Malta)

"There are teams in the Spanish second division better than this Cyprus," said Spanish goalkeeper Miguel Angel after a cold night pacing up and down his penalty area as his colleagues forced 19 corners without reply and hit in five goals.

Real Madrid colleague Vicente Del Bosque took over as captain for this match back in his home town, but it was the effective captain, Juan Manuel Asensi who opened the scoring after a through ball from sweeper Alesanco. Del Bosque got the second almost immediately after Santillana headed on a Juan Carlos Heredia corner.

That was until after the break when Bilbao's debutant left winger, Estanislao Argote, crossed for Santillana to head No. 3. Ruben Cano, a half-time substitute for Heredia, headed the fourth, after a centre from Atletico Madrid team-mate Marcelino, and the young full back was at the back of the move which led to Santillana's headed second, Spain's fifth.

Without the agility of George Panziaras in goal for Cyprus, the Spaniards would have scored more. Cyprus must be so used to such defeats you'd think they would have learned to accept them gracefully, but skipper Papadopoulos was booked for protesting about Santillana's first goal and manager Konstantinos Talianos had a curt "no comment" for newspaper men afterwards.

Argote was the pick of the Spanish forwards.

Spain: Miguel Angel — Marcelino, Alesanco, Migueli, Cundi — Villar (Leal 46), Del Bosque, Asensi — Heredia (Ruben Cano 46), Santillana, Argote.

Cyprus: G. Panziaras — N. Panziaras, Kizas, Stefanos, Kalothe — Christon, Savva, Papadopoulos, Economou — Kanaris, Phoebus.

Athens

Greece 2 (Koudas 43, Nikoloudis 70)
Rumania 1 (Romila 84)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Peters (Bel).

This was the Greeks' first win over Rumania in 16 matches and 48 years, though it only caught light in the second half. Skipper Koudas put Greece ahead with a 25-yard drive after taking a pass from Delikaris just before the interval, but the Rumanians threatened the equaliser several times before Delikaris set up No. 2 for Nikoloudis.

Rumanian manager Stefan Kovacs sent out an experimental team which was lively in attack through substitute Stan and the experienced Iordanescu, but not so sound in defence. It was after a Firos foul on Stan that Romila scored their goal from the penalty spot.

Greece: Constantinou — Ziacos, Iossifidis, Firos, Kapsis — Nikoloudis, Delikaris, Koudas (Csanthopoulos 56) — Ifantidis, Galakos, Ardizoglou (Mitropoulos 78).

Rumania: Koman — Zaplir (Voichea 80), B. Grigore, Stefanescu, Vigu — Romila, Boloni, Dobrin (Stan 65) — Kamatara, F. Grigore, Iordanescu.

DECEMBER 20

Düsseldorf

West Germany 3 (Rummenigge 32, Fischer 56, Bonhof 85)
Holland 1 (La Ling 62)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 68,000. **Ref:** Palotai (Hun).

No match between these two nations can ever be quite friendly. Too much has happened in too many fields over too many years for that. But whatever the determination to win, neither have these matches fallen below a high standard of entertainment. The 1974 World Cup Final, the 2-2 draw in the second round in Argentina helped create the tradition, and this meeting confirmed it.

Both sides showed changes from Argentina. West German manager Jupp Derwall left out goalkeeper Sepp Maier, recalled Read Madrid's Uli Stielike from almost two years' exile and made Bernard Dietz captain. Derwall wanted to field Stuttgart's Hansi Müller too. However Müller had previously been suspended for eight weeks after a league sending-off. On appeal this ban was cut to four games, so Derwall named him in his squad, only for one of those matches to be postponed because of bad weather, meaning Müller wasn't free of suspension by the time the international came along.

Holland boss Jan Zwartkruis had the basis of the Argentina side in defence and midfield, but was without Rob Rensenbrink because of Anderlecht's commitment to the Super Cup. Dick Nanninga, scorer of Holland's goal against Argentina in June, was also missing at his own request because of the pressure of Christmas work in his wife's flower shop!

Accordingly Zwartkruis made a late addition to his squad in Tscheu La Ling, after the Ajax winger scored twice in a league victory over Twente Enscheede. And La Ling repaid Zwartkruis by scoring Holland's goal with a header which caught goalkeeper Burdenski napping.

By that time the Germans were already two goals up. The first came from a through pass from Gerd Zewe, the 28-year-old Fortuna Düsseldorf sweeper who was the Germans' outstanding player in only his third game. Karl-Heinz Rummenigge took advantage of the hesitation of the Dutch defenders claiming offside, to score.

In the 54th minute Erny Brandts was lucky not to concede an own goal when he inadvertantly got in the way of a shot from Klaus Allofs, another Düsseldorf hero, but the second goal was only a minute away, Klaus Fischer heading in a centre from Manni Kaltz. It was the much-criticised Fischer's first goal in 10 games!

In the closing stages, with Eintracht Frankfurt's Ronald Borchers completing his

Detz in action for West Germany.

four-month progression from nowhere to the national team, Rainer Bonhof scored his inevitable free kick goal. Not a power drive this time, but a neat curler which beat Piet Schrijvers all ends up.

West Germany: Burdenski — Kaltz, Zewe, Bonhof, Dietz — Allofs, Cullmann (Zimmermann 56), Stielike — Rummenigge, Fischer, Abranczik (Borchers 79).

Holland: Schrijvers — Poortvliet, Krol (Metgod 64), Brandts, Hovenkamp — W. Van der Kerkhof, Neeskens, Jansen — La Ling, Rep, Koster (Vermeulen 56).

DECEMBER 21
Rome

Italy 1 (Rossi 30)
Spain 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Doudine (Bul).

An unsatisfactory game from both points of view. Many Italians were disappointed that manager Enzo Bearzot didn't take the opportunity to make a few more experiments than the mere introduction of Gabriele Oriali as defensive midfielder, and the promotion as substitute of the league's top scorer, Bruno Giordano. There were a few raised eyebrows, too, at his selection of Juventus left back Antonio Cabrini, the World Cup star who has played only five league games this season. In the event Cabrini fully justified his selection.

As for Spain, manager Ladislao Kubala slung out all but five of the men who faced Cyprus and fielded a virtual B team. The Italians looked on this as something of an insult, the Spanish fans feared a thrashing and thus their eventual 1-0 defeat acquired the standing of a moral victory.

It was not a good game however, with little excitement. Italy forced five corners, Spain only two, and the goal arrived on the half-hour with Paolo Rossi heading in when Marco Tardelli flicked on a Cabrini centre after Franco Causio's corner.

There was one booking, for Sanchez shortly before the goal for a foul on Tardelli.

Italy: Zoff (Conti 46) — Gentile, Bellugi (Cuccureddu 66), Scirea, Cabrini — Oriali, Benetti, Tardelli — Causio, Rossi, Graziani (Giordano 26).

Spain: Urruti — Botubot, Marcelino (Gordillo 50), Alesanco, Cundi — Leal, Sanchez (Zamora 46), San Jose, Solsona — Satrustegui, Argote (Alonso 46).

OTHER MATCHES: West Germany B 2, Holland B 1 — Israel 1, Rumania 1 — Lazio 1, Czechoslovakia 1 — Taranto 3, Czechoslovakia 2 — Perugia 1, Czechoslovakia 2.

UNDER-21: Spain 0, Italy 1.
MILITARY: Austria 4, France 3.

AFRICAN CHAMPIONS' CUP FINAL
First leg — December 3

Hafia 0
Canon 0
Att: 35,000. Conakry (Guinea).

Second leg — December 17

Canon 2 (Onguene 64 pen, Mbida 89)
Hafia 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 80,000. Yaounde (Cameroun).
Canon (Cameroun) win 2-0 on agg.

PREVIOUS WINNERS: 1964 Dryx Douala (Cameroun). 1966 Stade d'Abidjan (Ivory Coast). 1967 Mazembe (Zaire). 1968 Mazembe (Zaire). 1969 Ismaili (Egypt). 1970 Kotoko (Ghana). 1971 Canon. 1972 Hafia. 1973 Vita Kinshasa. 1974 CARA Brazzaville (Congo). 1975 Hafia. 1976 Mouloudia (Algeria). 1977 Hafia.

OVERALL TITLES: Hafia 3, Canon, Mazembe each 2.

League Tables

ARGENTINA
National Championship
(final group standings)

Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Talleres Cordoba	14	9	3	2	37	17	21
Racing Club	14	8	3	3	21	14	19
Newell's Old Boys	14	7	4	3	27	19	18
Atletico Ledesma	14	5	5	4	23	22	15
FC Oeste	14	6	3	5	23	22	15
Estudiantes La Plata	14	5	0	9	28	31	10
All Boys	14	2	6	6	16	26	10
Juv. Antoniana Salta	14	0	4	10	16	40	4

Group B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Union S. Fe	14	9	3	2	22	6	21
Huracan	14	8	4	2	31	18	20
At. Tucuman	14	8	3	3	24	12	19
Boca Juniors	14	7	1	6	19	25	15
Patronato	14	4	5	5	17	21	13
Chacarita Juniors	14	4	4	6	20	21	12
Gimnasia Mendoza	14	4	2	8	17	24	10
Platense	14	0	2	12	9	29	2

Group C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Independiente	14	9	3	2	31	16	21
Velez Sarsfield	14	8	5	1	20	14	21
Gimnasia La Plata	14	6	5	3	22	13	17
Racing Cordoba	14	5	4	5	17	16	14
Deportivo Gen Roca	14	5	4	5	12	14	14
Rosario Central	14	2	6	6	9	14	10
Argentinos Juniors	14	4	1	9	17	26	9
Altos Hornos Zapla	14	1	4	9	11	27	6

Group D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
River Plate	14	10	3	1	35	13	23
Colon S. Fe	14	7	3	4	23	15	17
San Martin Mendoza	14	7	2	5	21	22	16
Atlanta	14	3	7	4	22	23	13
San Martin Tucuman	14	4	4	6	24	20	12
Quilmes	14	4	3	7	15	27	11
Alvarado	14	3	4	7	20	28	10
San Lorenzo	14	3	4	7	13	25	10

(Top two from each group qualify for quarter-finals)

BRAZIL State Championships

Carioca: (final leaders) 1. Flamengo 21 pts; 2. Vasco da Gama 20; 3. Fluminense 16; 4. America 14; 5. Botafogo 13.
Sao Paulo (2nd round): Group A: 1. Guarani 10 pts; 2. Palmeras, Juventus 7; 4. Portuguesa Santista 6; 5. Paulista 5. Group B: 1. Comercial 6; 2. Americo 5; 3. Botafogo 4; 4. Corintians, Noroeste 3. Group C: 1. Francana 6; 2. Sao Paulo, Marilia 5; 4. Ponte Preta, Sao Bento 4. Group D: 1. 15 de Piracicaba 10; 2. Ferroviaria 7; 3. 15 de Jau 6; 4. Santos 5; 5. Portuguesa Desportes 2.

Santa Catarina: (final round) 1. Joinville 12 pts; 2. Chapecoense 11; 3. Inter 10; 4. Cricuma 8; 5. Joacaba 5.

Bahia: Bahia won 1978 championship.

Belo Horizonte: (2nd round final) Leaders — 1. Cruzeiro 20 pts; 2. Atletico Mineiro 18; 3. Valerio 14; 4. America, Uberaba 12.

Curitiba: Final: Coritiba 0, Atletico Paranaense 0 (Coritiba won on penalties).

Porto Alegre: (final) 1. Internacional; 2. Gremio.

Recife: 1. Pernambucano (final).

Goias: 1. Goias 41 pts; 2. Vila Nova 38; 3. Atletico 34; 4. Anapolina 31.

Fortaleza: 1. Ceara 17 pts; 2. Fortaleza 14; 3. Ferroviario 13.

COLOMBIA
Final championship round
(final standings)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millionarios	6	3	3	0	8	3	9
Deportivo Cali	6	2	3	1	6	6	7
Atletico Nacional	6	1	3	2	8	10	5
Independiente Sta Fe	6	1	1	4	7	10	3

PERU
National Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alianza Lima	26	16	4	6	51	18	36
Universitario	26	17	1	8	52	26	35
Sporting Cristal	26	14	6	6	45	24	34
Juan Aurich	26	11	10	5	32	21	32
Melgar	26	11	9	6	35	26	31
Sport Boys	26	9	10	7	32	32	28
Leon de Huanuco	26	10	8	8	25	28	28
Coronel Bolognesi	26	9	9	8	26	32	27
Atletico Chalaco	26	8	8	10	35	38	24
Union Huaral	26	9	6	11	35	40	24
Colegio Nac. Iquitos	26	8	8	10	24	32	24
Atletico Torino	26	9	4	13	32	41	22
Deportivo Municipal	26	8	4	14	24	28	20
Alfonso Ugarte	26	6	6	14	36	48	18
Deportivo Junin	26	6	6	14	30	55	18
Defensor Lima	26	6	4	16	36	60	16

ECUADOR
Closing Championship
(final standings)

1. Nacional 23 pts (goal difference plus 27); 2. Barcelona 23 (plus 9); 3. Emelec, Tecnico Universitario 22 (plus 6); 5. Bonita Banana 22 (plus 3); 6. Deportivo Quito 16; 7. Universidad Catolica, Deportivo Cuenca 15; 9. Universidad de Portoviejo 13; 10. Union Deportiva Valdez 9 (bottom two relegated).

Division B: 1. America de Quito 29; 2. Liga Deportiva Universitaria de Quito 28; 3. Liga Deportiva Universitaria de Cuenca 27 (top two promoted).

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Trabzonspor	15	7	8	0	18	1	22
Fenerbahçe	15	8	5	2	25	11	21
Galatasaray	14	6	6	2	15	5	18
Diyarbakir	15	7	4	4	15	14	18
Altay	15	6	5	4	22	14	17
Besiktas	15	6	4	5	16	10	16
Adanaspor	15	6	4	5	20	16	16
Eskisehir	15	4	8	3	15	13	16
A. D. Spor	15	6	4	5	12	18	16
Gözlepe	15	5	6	4	17	24	16
Orduspor	15	5	4	6	10	12	14
Bolusporr	15	4	4	7	14	16	12
Samsunspor	15	3	6	6	8	14	12
Zonguldakspor	15	3	3	9	7	15	9
Kirikkale	15	2	5	8	5	26	9
Bursaspor	14	1	4	9	6	20	6

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Labinoti	10	5	5	0	13	8	15
Besa	10	5	3	2	17	7	13
Dinamo	10	4	5	1	17	7	13
Partizani	10	5	3	2	15	8	13
17 Nendori	10	5	3	2	19	15	13
Tomori	10	4	4	2	9	7	12
Lokomotiva	10	3	5	2	11	8	11
Naftetari	10	3	4	3	10	16	10
Vllaznia	10	2	4	4	14	13	8
Flamurtari	10	2	4	4	7	9	8
Shkendija	10	1	6	3	8	11	8
Luftetari	10	2	3	5	9	16	7
Beselidhja	10	3	0	7	9	22	6
Traktori	10	0	3	7	3	14	3

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aris	12	9	2	1	25	6	20
AEK	12	9	2	1	25	10	20
Olympiakos	12	9	1	2	18	11	19
Etnikos	12	8	1	3	20	11	17
Panathinaikos	12	5	6	1	21	13	16
PAOK	12	5	4	3	25	12	14
Ofi	12	6	2	4	13	10	14
Appolon	12	4	5	3	14	11	13
Heraklis	12	4	4	4	15	16	12
Kastoria	12	4	3	5	12	16	11
Larissa	12	4	2	6	15	19	10
Yannina	12	3	4	5	10	18	10
Kavalia	12	4	1	7	10	18	9
Rhodes	12	3	1	8	13	18	7
Panionios	12	2	3	7	7	15	7
Panahaïki	12	1	4	7	3	17	6
Seres	12	1	4	7	4	12	6
Aegaleo	12	2	1	9	9	26	5

N. IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ards	7	5	2	0	22	12	12
Larne	7	4	2	1	16	8	10
Cliftonville	7	4	1	2	17	7	9
Coleraine	9	3	3	3	14	12	9
Linfield	6	3	2	1	13	4	8
Glentoran	7	3	2	2	15	17	8
Bangor	7	2	3	2	8	11	7
Portadown	6	3	0	3	8	8	6
Glenavon	8	2	2	4	10	14	6
Crusaders	9	2	2	5	12	19	6
Ballymena	8	2	2	4	9	20	6
Distillery	7	0	1	6	4	16	1

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
VfB Stuttgart	18	11	4	3	34	18	26
Kaiserslautern	18	10	6	2	36	23	26
Hamburger SV	17	11	3	3	36	13	25
Eintracht Frankfurt	18	10	2	6	30	25	22
Fortuna Düsseldorf	17	7	4	6	36	27	18
Bayern	17	7	4	6	33	25	18
Schalke 04	18	6	6	6	35	30	18
Hertha BSC Berl.	18	5	7	6	22	23	17
Bor. M'gladbach	17	6	4	7	24	19	16
Cologne	17	5	6	6	22	21	16
Arminia Bielefeld	17	6	4	7	21	26	16
Bor. Dortmund	17	6	4	7	31	39	16
VfL Bochum	17	5	6	7	28	29	15
Werder Bremen	17	5	5	7	24	30	15
Eintr. Braunschweig	17	5	5	7	24	33	15
MSV Duisburg	17	5	3	9	22	37	13
Darmstadt 98	18	3	5	10	23	39	11
Nürnberg	17	4	1	12	14	38	9

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beveren	17	10	5	2	31	11	25
Anderlecht	17	10	1	6	40	22	21
Antwerp	17	6	9	2	22	15	21
RWDM	16	8	4	4	23	18	20
Lokeren	17	7	6	4	22	18	20
FC Bruges	17	6	8	3	23	17	20
Waterschei	17	6	7	4	19	14	19
Beringen	17	6	7	4	21	18	19
Standard	17	6	6	5	22	17	18
Beerschot	17	6	5	6	22	21	17
Lierse	17	7	2	8	22	23	16
Winterslag	17	4	7	6	22	24	15
Charleroi	17	6	3	8	19	24	15
Waregem	17	3	9	5	13	21	15
La Louvière	17	4	4	9	23	39	12
FC Liège	17	4	3	10	20	31	11
Berchem	17	2	7	8	11	25	11
Courtrai	16	2	5	9	8	25	9

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dundee Utd	18	8	7	3	25	16	23
Partick	18	8	5	5	19	16	21
Aberdeen	18	6	8	4	29	17	20
Rangers	18	6	8	4	22	18	20
Celtic	18	7	5	6	26	21	19
St Mirren	18	7	4	7	20	17	18
Morton	18	6	6	6	22	25	18
Hibernians	18	4	8	6	19	23	16
Hearts	18	5	5	8	22	34	15
Motherwell	18	3	4	11	18	35	10

A faceless goalkeeper . . . the custodian of Cadiz appears to have a ball as a face in this splendid picture taken during a Spanish league game. The player is Santamaria.

Jenssen of Real Madrid (dark shirt) evades a desperate tackle by a Rayo Vallecano player during a recent Spanish league game which ended 1-1.

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	14	10	3	1	26	8	23
Perugia	14	6	8	0	14	5	20
Inter	14	5	8	1	19	10	18
Torino	14	6	6	2	19	12	18
Juventus	14	5	6	3	16	11	16
Lazio	14	5	6	3	17	19	16
Fiorentina	14	5	5	4	13	11	15
Napoli	14	3	8	3	10	11	14
Ascoli	14	4	5	5	16	17	13
Catanzaro	14	2	9	3	7	11	13
Vicenza	14	4	5	5	15	21	13
Avellino	14	2	6	6	10	14	10
Roma	14	3	4	7	7	15	10
Atalanta	14	1	7	6	7	14	9
Bologna	14	1	6	7	10	16	8
Verona	14	1	6	7	10	21	8

EIRE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bohemians	15	9	4	2	21	9	22
Waterford	15	8	5	2	26	16	21
Drogheda	15	8	5	2	32	19	21
Dundalk	15	7	6	2	25	14	20
Limerick	15	9	2	4	21	11	19
Athlone	15	7	4	4	26	19	18
Finn Harps	15	7	3	5	26	26	17
Shamrock Rovers	15	7	3	5	18	11	17
Home Farm	15	6	5	4	27	19	17
Shelbourne	15	4	6	5	21	24	14
Cork Albert	15	4	5	6	19	23	13
Sligo	15	5	2	8	19	19	12
Cork Celtic	15	3	3	9	10	26	9
Thurles	15	2	3	10	16	32	7
St Patrick	15	2	3	10	15	36	7
Galway	15	0	5	10	20	88	5

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria/WAC	18	13	1	4	45	22	27
Rapid	18	9	5	4	29	18	23
Austria Salz	18	9	2	7	17	27	20
Wiener SC	18	5	8	5	34	25	18
Voest Linz	17	7	4	6	19	19	18
Admira Wacker	18	6	5	7	21	19	17
Sturm Graz	18	5	6	7	18	27	16
Vienna	18	5	5	8	28	37	15
SW Innsbruck	17	4	4	9	21	25	12
Graz AK	18	3	6	9	18	31	12

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Bromwich	22	14	6	2	47	20	34
Liverpool	21	15	3	3	47	9	33
Everton	22	12	9	1	32	16	31
Arsenal	23	12	7	4	41	21	31
Leeds	24	9	9	6	45	31	27
Nottingham For.	21	8	11	2	22	14	27
Bristol City	25	9	8	8	30	26	26
Coventry	22	9	7	6	29	35	25
Tottenham	23	8	9	6	25	36	25
Manchester United	22	9	6	7	32	39	24
Aston Villa	21	7	9	5	26	19	23
Southampton	21	6	8	7	25	28	20
Manchester City	22	5	9	8	28	27	19
Norwich	20	4	11	5	31	31	19
Ipswich	22	8	3	11	29	30	19
Derby	22	7	5	10	26	40	19
Bolton	22	6	5	11	29	41	17
Middlesbrough	21	6	4	11	30	31	16
Queen's Park Rang.	21	4	7	10	18	30	15
Wolverhampton	21	5	2	14	17	40	12
Chelsea	22	2	6	14	22	48	10
Birmingham	22	2	4	16	20	39	8

MALTA

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hibernians	8	5	1	2	11	6	11
Sliema	7	5	0	2	10	10	10
Marsa	8	3	3	2	8	7	9
Hamrun	8	2	2	4	4	9	6
Qormi	9	1	2	6	7	15	4

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Valletta	8	6	2	0	18	2	14
Floriana	7	5	2	0	14	2	12
St. George's	8	2	2	4	10	13	6
Msida	9	1	1	7	5	19	3
Chaxaq	6	1	1	4	7	13	3

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	17	12	2	3	46	16	26
Roda JC	17	10	6	1	31	11	26
PSV	16	10	3	3	31	11	23
Feyenoord	16	7	7	2	21	8	21
AZ 67	17	9	2	6	54	30	20
Sparta	17	8	3	6	22	19	19
Twente	17	5	8	4	23	16	18
Go Ahead	17	6	6	5	22	20	18
MVV	17	6	6	5	15	20	18
Utrecht	17	6	4	7	27	29	16
Vitesse	17	4	6	7	22	34	14
Haarlem	17	4	6	7	16	33	14
Den Haag	17	3	7	7	16	28	13
NAC Breda	17	3	7	7	18	32	13
PEC	16	2	8	6	12	22	12
NEC	16	2	8	6	13	23	12
Volendam	17	3	4	10	21	34	10
VVV Venlo	17	2	5	10	11	35	9

● *Continued overleaf*

● Continued from previous page

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	15	12	0	3	35	8	24
Porto	15	9	5	1	28	11	23
Sporting	16	9	4	3	21	12	22
Braga	16	9	2	5	26	15	20
Guimaraes	15	7	3	5	22	17	17
Varzim	16	6	5	5	18	17	17
Belenenses	15	5	5	5	24	23	15
Estoril	16	4	7	5	14	22	15
Famalicao	15	5	4	6	10	13	14
Setubal	15	5	3	7	14	19	13
Beira-Mar	16	6	1	9	27	32	13
Boavista	16	5	3	8	16	21	13
Barreirense	16	5	3	8	13	20	13
Academico Coimbra	15	3	5	7	9	15	11
Viseu	15	4	1	10	8	28	9
Maritimo Funchal	16	2	5	9	11	23	9

MOROCCO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fès	13	7	5	1	14	7	32
WAC	12	8	2	2	14	6	30
Oujda	12	6	4	2	13	7	28
FAT	12	4	6	2	11	5	26
Mohammedia	13	5	3	5	11	8	26
Kenitra	13	4	5	4	12	11	26
Marrakech	13	6	1	6	11	11	26
Meknès	13	5	3	5	8	8	26
El Jadida	13	5	3	5	8	9	26
Beni-Mellal	12	4	5	3	16	15	25
Raja	13	4	5	4	11	13	25
Etoile	13	3	6	4	9	12	25
FUS	13	3	5	5	5	9	24
Sidi-Kacem	13	3	3	7	12	15	22
Salé	13	2	4	7	8	14	21
Settat	13	1	4	8	8	20	19

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Berlin	13	12	1	0	32	7	25
Dynamo Dresden	13	7	5	1	18	9	19
Magdeburg	13	7	3	3	30	13	17
Lokomotive Leipzig	13	7	3	3	23	20	17
Carl Zeiss Jena	13	7	2	5	21	11	16
Chemie Halle	13	6	3	4	23	20	15
Rot-Weiss	13	5	4	4	16	17	14
Stahl Riesa	13	5	3	5	22	19	13
Union Berlin	13	4	4	5	14	20	12
Sachsenring	13	3	2	7	10	30	8
Chemie Bohlen	13	2	4	7	15	33	8
Karl Marx Stadt	13	2	3	8	12	24	7
Wismut Aue	13	2	2	9	17	28	6
Hansa Rostock	13	1	3	8	12	25	5

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Strasbourg	23	12	9	2	41	21	33
Nantes	24	14	4	6	53	23	32
St. Etienne	24	13	6	5	49	24	32
Monaco	24	13	5	6	45	28	31
Bordeaux	24	10	10	4	35	22	30
Lyon	24	11	6	7	41	33	28
Sochaux	23	10	7	6	41	27	27
Lille	24	7	11	6	45	45	25
Metz	24	10	5	9	35	36	25
Nimes	24	9	5	10	39	36	23
Bastia	24	8	7	9	36	43	23
Laval	24	6	10	8	36	47	22
Nancy	24	7	7	10	45	40	21
Paris St. G	24	7	6	11	35	43	20
Angers	24	7	6	11	25	46	20
Marseille	24	5	9	10	29	38	19
Paris F.C.	24	6	7	11	28	42	19
Nice	24	6	6	12	36	55	18
Valenciennes	24	6	5	13	23	40	17
Reims	24	2	9	13	16	44	13

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	15	7	7	1	28	18	21
Gijon	16	9	3	4	25	16	21
Barcelona	16	9	1	6	40	17	19
Athletic Bilbao	16	7	4	5	27	19	18
Atletico Madrid	16	6	6	4	30	26	18
Sevilla	15	6	5	4	28	23	17
Las Palmas	15	6	5	4	21	17	17
Valencia	16	7	3	6	20	20	17
Real Sociedad	15	7	2	6	22	18	16
Hercules Alicante	16	8	0	8	22	22	16
Burgos	16	4	8	4	20	22	16
Real Zaragoza	16	7	1	8	26	28	15
Español Barcelona	16	7	1	8	17	21	15
Salamanca	16	5	4	7	16	22	14
Santander	16	5	2	9	20	29	12
Rayo Vallecano	16	4	4	8	18	32	12
Huelva	16	4	2	10	14	29	10
Celta Vigo	16	3	4	9	13	28	10

ALGERIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MP Oran	14	8	4	2	15	5	34
JET	14	8	2	4	14	7	31
ASC Oran	14	6	4	4	12	7	30
RS Kouba	14	6	3	5	15	9	29
USMH	14	5	5	4	15	13	28
ASNAM STO	14	7	1	6	18	14	28
MP Alger	13	5	5	3	16	16	28
USK Alger	14	5	4	5	18	21	28
DNC Alger	13	6	1	6	14	17	26
MA Hussein-D.	11	4	5	2	13	9	24
CM Belcourt	14	3	4	7	15	20	24
EP Sétif	13	2	6	5	15	24	23
CM Constantine	14	2	4	8	11	25	22
CN Batna	14	2	4	8	6	12	22

Rubio of Atletico Madrid (right) in action against Ruiz Igartua of Burgos in a Spanish league match. Burgos won 2-1.

TUNISIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Etoile Sahel	13	9	2	2	18	6	33
Espérance	13	6	5	2	18	13	30
Stade Tunisien	13	7	3	3	17	11	30
Club Afric.	13	6	4	3	11	6	29
CSHL	13	6	3	4	14	14	28
CAB	13	4	5	4	12	13	26
JSK	13	4	4	5	9	8	25
OCK	13	2	8	3	7	8	25
CS Sfax	13	3	6	4	12	14	25
Okel	13	4	3	6	13	12	24
AS Marsa	13	4	3	6	14	14	24
Sfax SR	13	3	5	5	11	12	24
COT	13	2	5	6	9	15	22
SSS	13	1	4	8	7	24	19

1979 UEFA YOUTH TOURNAMENT

QUAL. RESULTS (to date). — Group one: Norway 2, Wales 1 — Wales 0, Norway 2 (Norway qual). Group two — Rep. Ireland 0, Belgium 1. Group three: Iceland 0, Holland 1 — Holland 1, Iceland 0 (Holland qual). Group four: Finland 0, Scotland 3 — Scotland 2, Finland 0 (Scotland qual). Group five: Sweden 0, Denmark 0 — Denmark 4, Sweden 1 (Denmark qual). Group six: Spain v France (no games played yet). Group seven: Malta v Liechtenstein (no games). Group eight: Italy v England (no games). Group nine: Luxembourg 1, W. Germany 4. Group 10: Portugal 2, Switzerland 2. Group 11: Cyprus v Yugoslavia (no games). Group 12: Hungary 0, Russia 0 — Rumania 0, Hungary 3. Group 13: Poland 5, Turkey 0. Group 14: Greece v Czechoslovakia (no games). Group 15: E. Germany v Bulgaria (no games).

Finals (in Austria May 21 to June 3). Venues: Group A (Linz): Spain or France, N. Ireland or Rep. Ireland or Belgium, Portugal or Switzerland, Holland. Group B (Obertrauen, nr Salzburg): Italy or England, Greece or Czechoslovakia, Malta or Liechtenstein, Luxembourg or W. Germany. Group C (Schielleiten, nr Graz): Cyprus or Yugoslavia, Hungary or Rumania or Russia, Norway, Austria (hosts). Group D (Lindabrunn, nr Vienna): Poland or Turkey, E. Germany or Bulgaria, Scotland and Denmark.

AFRICAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP FINAL

Horoya (Conakry Guinea) bt MAHD (Algeria) 3-1 away, 2-1 home — agg 5-2.

PREVIOUS WINNERS: 1975 Tonnerre Yaounde (Cameroun). 1976 Shooting Stars (Nigeria). 1977 Rangers Enugu (Nigeria).

AFRICAN PLAYER OF THE YEAR

(Poll by *France Football*)

1978 results: 1 Abdoul Razak (Ghana) 58 pts. 2, Ali Bencheikh (Algeria) 33. 3, Thomas N'Kono (Cameroun) 29.

Previous winners: 1970 Salif Keita (Mali). 1971 Ibrahim Sunday (Ghana). 1972 Cherif Souleymane (Guinea). 1973 Tshimen Bwanga (Zaire). 1974 Paul Moukila (Congo). 1975 Ahmed Faras (Morocco). 1976 Roger Milla (Cameroun). 1977: Tarak Dhiab (Tunisia).

Martin O'Neill of Nottingham Forest. He will be playing an important role in Forest's European Cup quarter-final clash with Grasshoppers of Switzerland.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Group 1

England, Bulgaria, Denmark, Northern Ireland, Ireland Rep.

24. 5.78	Denmark 3 Ireland Rep. 3
20. 9.78	Ireland Rep. 0 N. Ireland 0
20. 9.78	Denmark 3 England 4
11.10.78	Denmark 2 Bulgaria 2
25.10.78	Ireland Rep. 1 England 1
25.10.78	Northern Ireland 2 Denmark 1
29.11.78	Bulgaria 0 N. Ireland 2
7. 2.79	England v. N. Ireland
2. 5.79	Ireland Rep. v. Denmark
2. 5.79	Northern Ireland v. Bulgaria
23. 5.79	Bulgaria v. Ireland Rep.
6. 6.79	Bulgaria v. England
6. 6.79	Denmark v. N. Ireland
12. 9.79	England v. Denmark
17.10.79	Ireland Rep. v. Bulgaria
17.10.79	Northern Ireland v. England
31.10.79	Bulgaria v. Denmark
21.11.79	England v. Bulgaria
21.11.79	N. Ireland v. Ireland Rep.
6. 2.80	England v. Ireland Rep.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
N. Ireland	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
England	2	1	1	0	5	4	3
Eire	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
Denmark	4	0	2	2	9	11	2
Bulgaria	2	0	1	1	2	4	1

Group 2

Austria, Belgium, Scotland, Norway, Portugal

30. 8.78	Norway 1 Austria 2
20. 9.78	Belgium 1 Norway 1
20. 9.78	Austria 3 Scotland 2
11.10.78	Portugal 1 Belgium 1
25.10.78	Scotland 3 Norway 2
15.11.78	Austria 1 Portugal 2
29.11.78	Portugal 1 Scotland 0
7. 2.79	Scotland v. Belgium
28. 3.79	Belgium v. Austria
2. 5.79	Austria v. Belgium
10/15.5.79	Norway v. Portugal
7. 6.79	Norway v. Scotland
29. 8.79	Austria v. Norway
12. 9.79	Norway v. Belgium
17.10.79	Belgium v. Portugal
17.10.79	Scotland v. Austria
1.11.79	Portugal v. Norway
21.11.79	Belgium v. Scotland
21.11.79	Portugal v. Austria
6. 2.80	Scotland v. Portugal

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	3	2	1	0	4	2	5
Austria	3	2	0	1	6	4	4
Scotland	3	1	0	2	5	6	2
Belgium	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Norway	3	0	1	2	3	6	0

Group 3

Cyprus, Spain, Rumania, Yugoslavia

4.10.78	Yugolsavia 1 Spain 2
25.10.78	Rumania 3 Yugoslavia 2
15.11.78	Spain 1 Rumania 0
13.12.78	Spain 3 Cyprus 0
1. 4.79	Cyprus v. Yugoslavia
4. 4.79	Rumania v. Spain
13. 5.79	Cyprus v. Rumania
10.10.79	Spain v. Yugoslavia
31.10.79	Yugoslavia v. Rumania
14.11.79	Yugoslavia v. Cyprus
18.11.79	Rumania v. Cyprus
9.12.79	Cyprus v. Spain

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	3	3	0	0	8	1	6
Rumania	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Yugoslavia	2	0	0	2	3	5	0
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	0	5	0

Group 4

German DR, Iceland, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland

6. 9.78	Iceland 0 Poland 2
20. 9.78	Netherlands 3 Iceland 0
4.10.78	German DR 3 Iceland 1
11.10.78	Switzerland 1 Netherlands 3
15.11.78	Netherlands 3 German DR 0
15.11.78	Poland 2 Switzerland 0
28. 3.79	Netherlands v. Switzerland
18. 4.79	German DR v. Poland
2. 5.79	Poland v. Netherlands
5. 5.79	Switzerland v. German DR
22. 5.79	Switzerland v. Iceland
9. 6.79	Iceland v. Switzerland
5. 9.79	Iceland v. Netherlands
12. 9.79	Iceland v. German DR
12. 9.79	Switzerland v. Poland
26. 9.79	Poland v. German DR
10.10.79	Poland v. Iceland
13.10.79	German DR v. Switzerland
17.10.79	Netherlands v. Poland
21.11.79	German DR v. Netherlands

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	3	3	0	0	9	1	6
Poland	2	2	0	0	4	0	4
E. Germany	2	1	0	1	3	4	2
Iceland	3	0	0	3	1	8	0
Switzerland	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Group 5

France, Luxemburg, Sweden, Czechoslovakia

2. 9.78	France 2 Sweden 2
4.10.78	Sweden 1 Czechoslovakia 3
7.10.78	Luxemburg 1 France 3
18. 2.79	France v. Luxemburg
4. 4.79	Czechoslovakia v. France
1. 5.79	Luxemburg v. Czechoslovakia
6/13.5.79	Sweden v. Luxemburg
5. 9.79	Sweden v. France
10.10.79	Czechoslovakia v. Sweden
23.10.79	Luxemburg v. Sweden
17.11.79	France v. Czechoslovakia
24.11.79	Czechoslovakia v. Luxemburg

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
France	2	1	1	0	5	3	3
Czechoslovakia	1	1	0	0	3	1	2
Luxembourg	1	0	0	1	1	3	0

Group 6

Finland, Greece, Hungary, USSR

24. 5.78	Finland 3 Greece 0
20. 9.78	Finland 2 Hungary 1
20. 9.78	USSR 2 Greece 0
11.10.78	Hungary 2 USSR 0
11.10.78	Greece 8 Finland 1
28.10.78	Greece 4 Hungary 1
2. 5.79	Hungary v. Greece
19. 5.79	USSR v. Hungary
4. 7.79	Finland v. USSR
12. 9.79	Greece v. USSR
17.10.79	Hungary v. Finland
31.10.79	USSR v. Finland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	4	2	0	2	12	7	4
Finland	3	2	0	1	6	9	4
USSR	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Hungary	3	1	0	2	4	6	2

Group 7

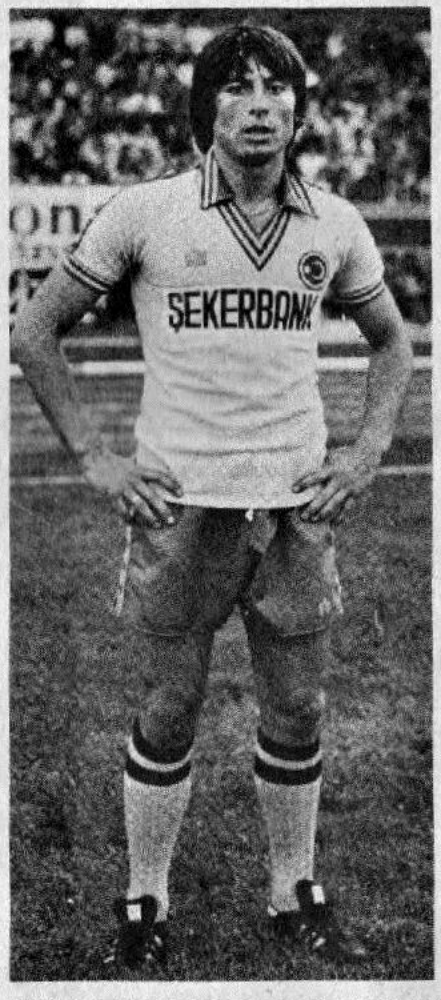
Germany FR, Malta, Wales, Turkey

25.10.78	Wales 7 Malta 0
29.11.78	Wales 1 Turkey 0
25. 2.79	Malta v. Germany FR
1. 4.79	Turkey v. Germany FR
2. 5.79	Wales v. Germany FR
2. 6.79	Malta v. Wales
17.10.79	Germany FR v Wales
21.11.79	Turkey v. Wales
22.12.79	Germany FR v. Turkey
27. 2.80	Germany FR v. Malta

Dates of Malta and Turkey still provisional

Wales	2	2	0	0	8	0	4
W. Germany	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turkey	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Malta	1	0	0	1	0	7	0

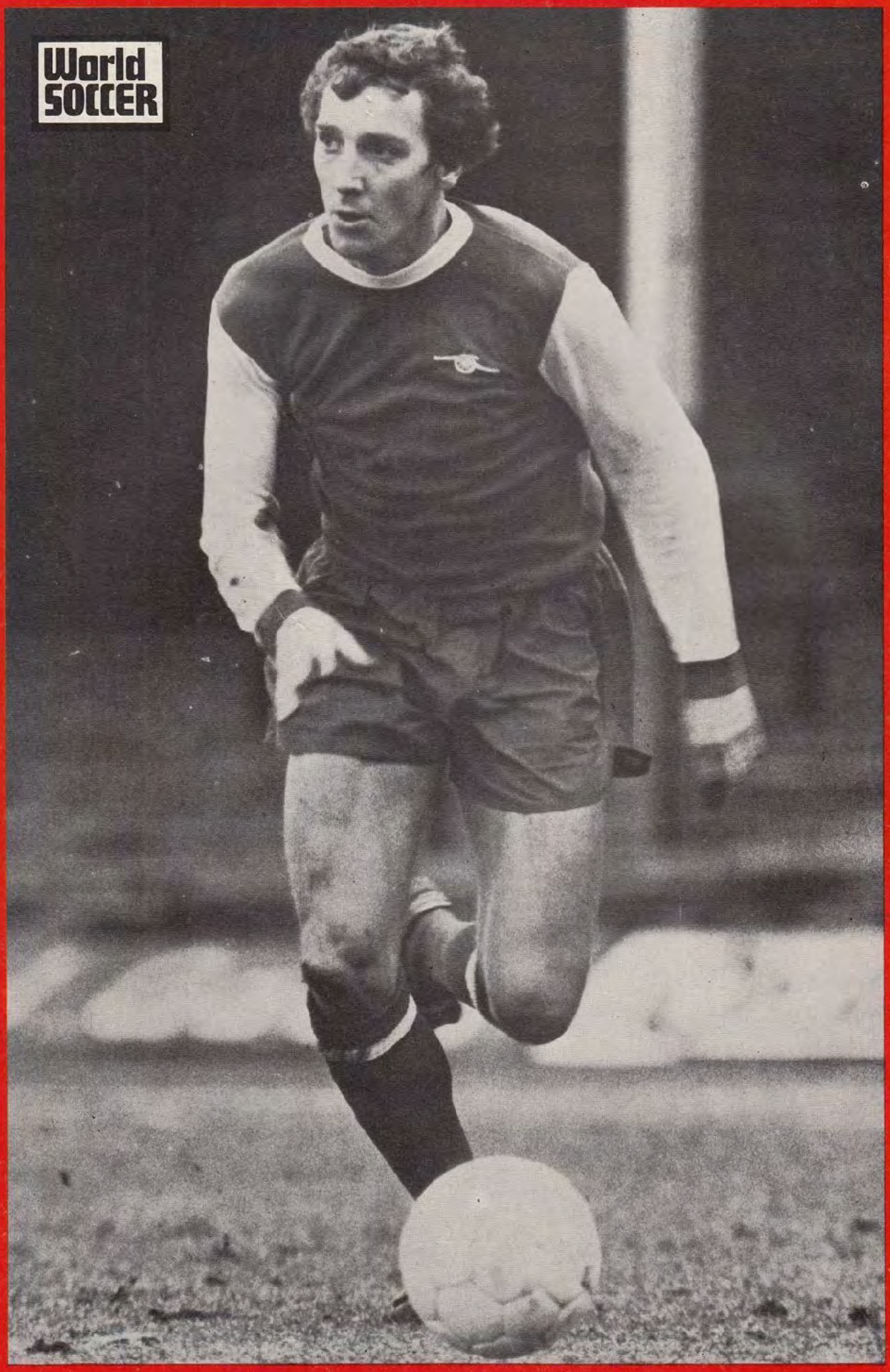
MORE RESULTS NEXT MONTH



Turkish national soccer team star forward Rasit, who is one of the most dangerous scorers in the Turkish first division league.

ALMINHO Portugal (left) and JARA Austria

World SOCCER



SAMMY NELSON Arsenal